WORLD SOCCER

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World SOCCER

Uphill task for England

ENGLAND'S CHANCES of qualifying for the 1978 World Cup Finals are remote and there is absolutely no point in trying to paper over the cracks in Don Revie's aspirations. England's 2-0 defeat in Rome, against an Italian side full of the sort of skill and class we sadly lack, does not mean that we have come to the end of the road. But Italy not only have points in the bag but look more than capable of coming to Wembley next November and adding to their haul.

MATCHES TO COME

30.3.77
England v. Luxembourg
26.5.77
Luxembourg v. Finland
8.6.77
Finland v Italy
12.10.77
Luxembourg v. England
15.10.77
Italy v. Finland
16.11.77
England v. Italy
3.12.77
Italy v. Luxembourg

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
England	3	2	0	1	6	4	4
Finland	3	1	0	2	9	7	2
Luxembourg	1	0	0	2	2	11	0

Bettega scores Italy's second goal against England. Picture by Peter Robinson.

And that would be the ultimate humiliation for a country which can no longer be included in the top bracket of international powers. We have suffered too many crucial defeats in recent years — in both the World Cup and the European Championship — and the sooner we accept the facts the better.

Unfortunately it is difficult to see what Mr Revie can do next. He has a wide choice of hard-working, average players but none of authentic world class. What is so frustrating is that many English players display impressive skills for their clubs but once they enter the international arena they cannot produce the goods.

Stan Bowles is hailed as world class in England and there is no doubt that Stan can turn on the magic for Queens Park Rangers. Kevin Keegan is superb for Liverpool. But the acid test comes when they pull on an England shirt . . . if players like Causio can do it for Italy, why not Bowles, Keegan, Mike Channon and so on for England.

It is time people in England asked themselves whether our players are as good as we like to think they are. Honest endeavour has its place but it is no substitute for skill and I'm not at all convinced that the English players work any harder, run further or faster, than their opponents.

If we accept that England's performance in Rome was satisfactory then we have lowered our own standards to such a degree as to be shameful. We have players who win the ball and then give it back and yet their efforts are praised for being competitive.

England now have to ram home as many goals as possible against Luxembourg, beat Italy at Wembley and hope that the Italians either drop a point or cannot match England's goal difference. Anything is possible, and it is true as Mr Revie frequently points out that Czechoslovakia won the European Championship after losing 3-0 to England, but one cannot feel very confident about England beating even Luxembourg by many goals.

The Italians, more constructive and penetrating in their build-up, more lethal in their finishing, will surely prove too good for Finland. Italy have managed to blend outstanding individuals into a team that will grow in stature from match to match and if they are on the way up England are still going round in circles with little or no directional purpose.

But what does Mr Revie do next? The claims of Derek Hales, an out-and-out goalscorer, will be pressed in the months ahead and why not? The Charlton striker is untried but would not the matches against Luxembourg be tailor-made for him.

At the same time Hales has got to be given a service, the bullets to fire, and this is where England appear to be in such desperate straights. Can Don Revie find the remedy with the players he has to choose from?

His work over the past two years has been geared to England's qualification for the World Cup finals. He must have hoped to have found a settled, tried and tested combination by now. He hasn't. Experience is invaluable, or so it's said, but he could hardly do worse than to throw in some uninhibited and fresh players to try and salvage England's apparently hopeless position. Hales could be one, Trevor Francis another. And would the so-called "Failures" like Alan Hudson and Tony Currie fare any worse?

Probably we will never know.

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An own goal by Ian Evans of Wales gave Scotland a disappointing 1-0 victory in their World Cup qualifying round match at Hampden Park. Scotland, who lost their opening match 2-0 to Czechoslovakia, desperately needed a win to keep alive their Argentinian aspirations but such a narrow and unconvincing win will cause few anxious flutters in Prague. Wales, who lacked penetration up front, rarely looked like getting back on terms after their early setback and they have problems to solve before tackling the Czechs.

SCOTLAND STAY IN THE HUNT

Hajduk slip back

YUGOSLAVIA

HAJDUK SPLIT have been the leading team in Yugoslavia for the last two or three years but this season they have slipped back amongst the also rans after losing manager Tomislav Ivic (to Ajax) and having key players Ivan Buljan and Jurica Jerkovic go off for their military service.

As if that weren't enough, top scorer Slavisa Zungul will soon follow Drazen Mezinic in having a knee operation.

Red Star Belgrade (Crvena Zvezda) have taken full advantage to regain their old position of supremacy, despite being decimated by transfers abroad once more. This speaks volumes for their youth policy — and their chief youth coach Rajko Mitic who recently turned down a second stint as manager of the national team. In charge of his old club's youth team, and also a football writer for the magazine *Tempo*, Mitic is more than happy.

With former national team boss Ante Mladinic now apparently off to manage Turkey's fortunes it looks more and more as if Ivan Toplak will be persuaded to stay on despite the two defeats against Italy and Spain under his command.

Zeljeznicar (of Sarajevo) seem to have lost more than was expected when manager Milan Ribar left for a job in Greece. Champions three years ago, Zeljeznicar look booked for the drop, without a win in their first 13 games.

Rejuvenated, Red Star seem to be unchallenged for the new title. With some flowing football against the lesser teams and very tight defensive tactics in the needle games Red Star visited Dinamo Zagreb early on and won 1-0 with a goal from Filipovic before 60,000 in a game that brought two penalties and six yellow cards in a country where two cautions automatically mean a one game suspension.

More recently, they beat neighbours Partizan 1-0 before a 95,000 crowd and again Filipovic was the scorer, though goalkeeper Aleksander Stojanovic also took the eye with a penalty save late in the game.

Hajduk still have the leading scorer to date in Slavisa Zungul who has 10 to his credit but Red Star have more scorers in Savic, Sestic, Susic and top man Zoran Filipovic who has seven. Overall it looks like a triumph for new boss Gojko Zec who took over in the summer after a longish spell with Rijeka.

THINGS THEY SAID . . .

DON REVIE (England manager): They all (his players) competed to the limit. I don't think I could have got any more out of them. I would pick the same team again if we could have played the match over again. They (Italy) were no better than us in skills.

* * *

ENZO BEARZOT (Italian manager): We have won a battle not the war, I know, but I trust now in success at Wembley in November next year. My team will be more mature and their nerves will be even stronger than they were at the Olympic Stadium.

* * *

DAVID MILLER (Daily Express): More alarming than defeat itself is that on the aircraft home hardly an England player could sense the gulf. The general view was that the team was unlucky not to steal a result.

* * *

JEFF POWELL (Daily Mail): No matter how many unlikely names are thrown up in the turmoil following World Cup defeat in Rome the fact remains that England do not have any world class footballers. There is the world of difference between the Football League and international football.

Giancalo Antognoni scores Italy's first goal against England.

HARDAKER ISSUES WARNING

ALAN HARDAKER, Football League secretary and never one of the national team's staunchest supporters, said after the match in Rome that the Football League was in danger of collapse next season if clubs had to postpone Saturday fixtures to aid England's World Cup preparations.

He said: "I don't think mucking about with the fixtures is right and it will be even worse next season. I can see the League collapsing. It's the public we are interested in and without them we cannot play. I must speak out on their behalf and I would have said the same had we won."

Don Revie, with all his problems, could certainly do without Mr Hardaker threatening to pull the rug from under his feet. The vast majority of football fans in England are interested in the achievements of the national side and if the postponement of a few Football League matches helps that cause then the public, for whom Mr Hardaker alleges to be representing, will not complain.

East European review... East European review...

GORSKI FOR KUWAIT

AFTER A five year stint in charge of the national team, during which time Poland emerged from the ranks of second class teams to take the gold at the 1972 Olympics and third place in the 1974 World Cup, manager Kazimierz Gorski is off to Kuwait early in the new year to take over as national coach from Brazil's 1970 and 1974 World Cup boss Zagallo.

Under the guidance of his former assistant Jacek Gmoch, Poland appear to have come to life again, winning 2-0 away to Portugal and 5-0 at home to Cyprus before a 60,000 crowd in Warsaw. Gmoch has switched the Stal Mielec midfield star Henryk Kasperczak to play *a la* Beckenbauer behind the defence and replaced him in midfield with 20 years old Zbigniew Boniek from Widzew Lodz who scored one of the goals against Cyprus. Another success (and scorer) in that game was left winger Stanislav Terlecki (LKS Lodz) who was formerly with Gwardia Warsaw, and is only 21.

Terlecki got his first cap away to Portugal along with Stal Mielec goalkeeper Zygmunt Kukla who has replaced Jan Tomaszewski, who apparently has personal problems and is out of form.

Because of international calls only two league rounds have been played in the last month, with the Lodz 'derby', LKS (who were top) and Widzew (9th) attracted a 25,000 crowd to see the two sides draw 0-0. The surprise of this round was the 0-1 home defeat of champions Stal Mielec who were beaten by Zaglebie Sosnowiecz whose captain, Wladyslaw Szaeynski scored the only goal in the first half.

Flopped

Co-leaders Slask Wroclaw were held at home to a goal-less draw by GKS Tychy who are missing the goal touch of centre forward Roman Ogaza and have flopped after doing so well last term. Slask went on to win 1-0 away to Szombierki in Bytom where Roman Faber got a late goal to give them both points to keep them level at the top with LKS Loda who beat Gornik Zabrze 1-0 (Andrzej Milczarski) at home.

Stal Mielec recovered somewhat to stay in touch with the leaders after winning 3-2 away to Odra Opole, newly promoted but who started very well and topped the table at one stage. Abdrzej Szarmach shot Stal ahead near the interval but within two minutes Wojciech Tyc levelled matters. Then in the second half Grzegorz Lato and an own goal boosted Stal's lead to 3-1 before Roman Wojcicki ended the scoring.

Lowly Arka Gdynia, the other promoted club picked up two invaluable points by beating co-leaders Pogon Szczecin 2-1 and in a vital relegation clash ROW Rybnik got only their second win of the season when they beat GKS Tychy 1-0.

The collapse of Ruch Chorzow who have spent the last seven years at or near the top continues. With Czech boss Michal Vican returning home, another Czech Frántisek Havranek took over. But they occupy 12th place in the 16 club league after drawing 0-0 at home to Odra Opole and going down 0-1 away to a goal from Zdislaw Kapka against Wisla in Krakow. Despite their string of internationals, Ruch just don't seem able to score goals.

After scoring twice against Cyprus in his 80th international, Kazimierz Deyna got two more in the league game away to Lech Poznan. That 2-1 win gave his club Legia Warsaw a much needed boost away from the clubs gathering at the foot of the table.

Four players share top scorers place after 11 games with 6 goals each: Grzegorz Lato (Stal Mielec); Wojciech Tyc (Odra Opole), and the Pogon Szczecin pair of strikers, Zenon Kasztelan and Leszek Wolski.

Austria win

AUSTRIA'S 3-0 win away to Greece surprised most of national team manager Helmut Senekowitsch's critics temporarily, but FA President Karl Sekanina remained unimpressed. More important to him was the recent 2-4 home defeat against their old enemy Hungary who are currently on the crest of a wave.

Having failed to qualify for the World Cup since 1958 (and that turned out to be such a disaster that the OFB declined to enter the 1962 series), the OFB chief is said to be in favour of paying Senekowitsch off and giving the job to Branko Elsner, the Yugoslav who led Wacker Innsbruck to three titles. Austria's record under Senekowitsch is now won three and lost three.

With 17 games gone Wacker Innsbruck are certain to be *autumn meister* and though FK Austria and SC Rapid are close if they slip, Innsbruck are the favourites to take the title. They looked real champions away to Sturm Graz in their last game where they won 4-0, though Rapid had held them to 1-1 in Innsbruck in the previous game.

Last time out, Rapid looked like losing 3-2 at home to Grazer AK when Hans Krankl got two out of three goals scored in a six minute spell near the end, to put him level top scorer with Helmut Kogelberger whose goals are keeping Linzer ASK from the relegation position.

SC Rapid have apparently resigned themselves to the fact that their international inside forward star Gustl Starek is beyond hope. Manager Antoni Brzezanczyk said of his recently: "I cannot take any more." Though much travelled, and holder of championship medals with Rapid (twice), and also 1st FC Nurnberg and Bayern Munchen in West Germany, Starek is now in his third spell with Rapid but seems unable to control himself. His disciplinary record is abysmal, having been suspended in Austria for a total of 51 matches!

Mladenov returns

CHRISTO MLADENOV is back again in charge of the Bulgarian national team but after drawing 2-2 with Turkey and crashing 0-4 at home to East Germany, the critics are calling for his head once more. Against East Germany, Mladenov turned our a team that included nine players who were only 24, clearly building for the future but significantly, Christo Bonev, formerly the golden hero of Bulgarian sport now 29 and with a record 90 caps was taken off.

In a 'B' international in Bourgas, Bulgaria beat East Germany 1-0 fielding a team that was probably just as strong as their A side. Unhappily, they seem unable to produce the necessary strikers who can get goals consistently and they have paid dearly for this for some years.

Bottom of the table in Bulgaria and clearly causing manager Danko Rojev many sleepless nights are Akademik the team of Sofia University who were promoted into the top class by the FA five or six years ago. With only one win and having scored only four goals in 12 games, Akademik have real problems despite the services of goalkeeper Georgi Tichanov who is currently Bulgaria's number one.

News from SPAIN by Keir Radnedge

CRUYFF EARLY N

COR COSTER is a frequent visitor to Spain, but his destination is usually Barcelona, to attend to the business interests of son-in-law Johan Cruyff or team-mate Johan Neeskens.

However Coster's last visit — together with one of his partners, Piet Keizer, former Ajax forward — was to Madrid, since it transpires that Real's Danish winger Henning Jensen is also under the Coster wing.

Coster is never without words to make people sit up, and this trip was no exception, since he stated outright that Cruyff was considering retiring at the end of the season.

At 29? he was asked incredulously.

"Well," said Coster, "all the big competitions are becoming tougher, particularly the Spanish league. No-one wants to see Johan in hospital with a broken leg. But in Spain some of the players really do mark a man, and it is dangerous to risk that for too long."

Coster also added that if Cruyff did retire soon, he would stay in Catalonia because he and his wife Danny were so happy there. That was news for a lot of journalists — they'd all understood for a long time that Mrs Cruyff was not too happy about living in Spain, but had been prepared to accept it as a vital part of her husband's career.

Cruyff, of course, is now playing out a one-year extension to his original contract with Barcelona, and the more cynical came away from meeting Coster wondering if this 'retirement' warning wasn't merely a ploy to increase Cruyff's value on the open market.

It's certainly true that he has recovered much of his old elan this season, and is looking much more like the Cruyff who first played here, when Barcelona carried all before them. They haven't been so successful — as I write they are third after nine matches, three points behind leaders Atletico Madrid — but there is still time.

Coster, incidentally, doled out some interesting figures on the number of players his organisation, Inter Football, has under contract — 20 in Belgium, 34 in West Germany, half a dozen in Spain, and many more of course in Holland. He also looks after the interests of various coaches — former Holland manager Georg Knobel was one.

While there has been talk of Cruyff retiring, similar rumours were being spread about Paul Breitner. Madrid's West German star comes to the end of his three-year contract this season and has never made any secret of his desire to give up soccer early to dedicate his time and money to some of the causes he espouses.

But Breitner, who is 25, was quick to make it clear that retirement wasn't in his mind yet. Yes, there are a lot of things he wants to do outside football, but not now. He hopes to sign for Madrid for another year and then go on extending his contract for some time to come.

And while on the subject of contracts, it was remarkable that no coaches had parted company from their clubs until after seven weeks of the season. Even then, the first split was not because of a dismissal in anger.

I wrote earlier this autumn of the anxiety caused to Betis of Seville when Hungarian coach Ferene Szusza failed to return from a visit home to Budapest until just before the start of the season.

The official reasons given were that he had been ill, in fact it is now clear that the Hungarian authorities were reluctant to issue a new permit for him to work abroad.

After seven matches — which saw Betis second from the foot of the first division — Szusza announced sadly that his five-year stint with them was at an end. The Hungarians had recalled him to join Lajos Baroti in rebuilding the Hungarian national team.

ANOTHER Johan Cruyff film, *The Prophet of Goals*, is making the rounds in Spain and Italy. But despite its success the subject isn't totally happy with life at the moment.

What's upset him is the Spanish football federation's edict that now not even team captains will have the right to address the referee during a game. Cruyff who has always had a lot — some would say too much — to say, called the order "ridiculous."

"Spain is just becoming a democracy politically," he said. "And yet they've banned freedom of speech on the pitch. It doesn't make sense."

The only way I could stay, said Szusza, would be to ask for asylum, and I would never wish to do that.

The parting was amicable, with Betis quickly naming former Bilbao and San Sebastian coach Rafael Iriondo to take over, and the two men worked together for Szusza's last week — which ended with the Betis players giving him a tremendous send-off by thrashing UEFA Cup contenders Espanol 5-1. One of the goals fell to Attila Landinszky, himself an exiled Hungarian.

This switch means that the first division coaches list now read like this: Real Madrid — Miljan Miljanic; Barcelona — Rinus Mechels; Atletico Madrid — Luis Aragones; Valencia — Heriberto Herrera; Santander — Jose Maria Maguregui; Sevilla — Luis Carriega; Espanol — Jose Emilo Santamaria; Las Palmas — Roque Olsen; Zaragoza — Lucien Muller; Real Sociedad L— Jose Antonio Irulegui; Betis — Rafa Iriondo; Elche — Felipe Mesones; Bilbao — Koldo Aguirre; Celta de Vigo — Carmelo Sedrun; Salamanca — Julian Garcia Traid; Hercules — Arsenio; Burgos — Marcel Domingo; Malaga — Milorad Pavil.

Among that list of 18 men, 11 foreigners. But at least one of the Spaniards there is happy enough — Luis — now that Atletico are top of the league, and particularly since he's made peace with Brazilian striker Heraldo Becerra, who walked out at the start of the season in anger at being dropped.

Becerra trained on his own at home for several weeks, and the only match practice he had was improvised games with local children on waste land. Atletico negotiated a sale with Granada in the second division, but Becerra couldn't agree terms and eventually he apologised and returned to the fold.

Not that he seems any more likely to play. After all, Atletico are well served for forwards. Luis's scheme demands only one winger and since that is bound to be Ruben Ayala, there still seems little scope for Becerra.

Not much scope either for Paraguayan defender Domingo Benegas. Atletico had barely welcomed Becerra back before Benegas was airing his disappointment at being a permanent reserve. Clearly, you can't please all the players all the time.

But if these two are misfits, the same does not go for many of the foreigners in Spain. Take a look at the leading scorers. Up there with 11 goals is Carlos Diarte, Valencia's Paraguayan, who hit a hat-trick recently in a 4-2 win against Santander.

Neighbours

He's five goals clear of his nearest rivals — team-mate Mario Kempes, and Las Palmas' Carlos Morete, both Argentinians. With five goals we find Betis' Eduardo Anzarda, a naturalised Argentinian, Nino Arrua, Zaragoza's Paraguayan, Cruyff, Leivinha, Atletico's Brazilian forward, and two Spaniards — Manuel Clares of Barcelona and Jose Marañon of neighbours Espanol.

Thus, out of nine top scorers, only those latter two are Spanish. More and more fans are not harking back to the days when Puskas and di Stefano, Vava and Mendonça, Kocsis and Evaristo dominated the lists. And they are wondering whether opening the frontiers was such a good idea — whether the national team will suffer because there are no opportunities for good Spanish forwards.

It's ironic that one of the best home products should now be playing in the second division — though Quini is maintaining his reputation by leading the scorers there with eight goals.

His chances of increasing his lead were

TO RETIRE EXT YEAR?

temporarily interrupted recently when he was sent off in the closing stages of Sporting Gijon's match away to San Andres. It was the first time he had ever been sent off in any match — and the news was a big surprise since Quini is renowned for his patience and long-suffering.

What happened? 'We were attacking and had the ball up near a corner flag," he said. "Then the referee suddenly blew his whistle for a free kick against us in the San Andres six yard box. I couldn't understand how he could give such a decision so far from the play and I said so. He immediately took out the yellow card and before I knew anything else he had taken out the red one too."

"That upset me for two reasons. First because I don't think I deserved it — I've always tried to play the game without getting involved in anything like that. And secondly because it meant we were down to ten men for the final few minutes."

Gijon held out for 0-0 draw. But though Quini's expulsion was a good story, it didn't earn much of a show in the Spanish press the next morning, since Atletico had just gone joint top of the league by beating Barcelona 3-1 in the Estadio Galderon.

The match as a spectacle however was ruined by some atrocious refereeing from Jose Luis Olavarria, a 44-year-old bank clerk. His blunders started as early as the 14th minute when Jose Capon and Cruyff fell into a tackle and Capon knocked the ball away with his hand. The referee let play continue and Ruben Cano shot Atletico into the lead.

Eight minutes later he let Johan Neeskens, clearly offside, carry on and shoot (wide) and in the 37th minute upset Barcelona by awarding Atletico a direct free kick 25 yards out after a clash between Jose Ramos and Ruben Diaz. Ramon Heredia took full advantage by hitting a tremendous free kick against one post, and the ball cannoned into the net off the other upright.

A minute before half-time Atletico went 3-0 up — again from a disputed free kick and again Barcelona were upset. This time doubly so, after Eugenio Leal hit the dead ball past Pedro Mora, for they claimed that Olavarria had raised his arm to signal an indirect free kick.

Still the controversies were not over. Seven minutes after half-time Cruyff found himself clear in front of the Atletico goal. Even he seemed to think he was offside, but after a brief pause he decided to play safe and flick the ball past Miguel Reina. The goal stood.

Michels would not comment on the referee afterwards — "If I say something, I might lose my self control."

That win put Atletico level with Valencia, who slipped the following week, going down 2-0 to Real Madrid in a match brought forward to Saturday night to help Madrid's preparations for their Champions' Cup return with Brugge.

Madrid went ahead after 16 minutes thanks to an own goal from Valencia skipper and sweeper Jesus Martinez, and Carlos Santillana scored the second on the hour after Carlos Guerini made a mess of trying to hit in a pass from Jensen. Madrid's most impressive player was defender Juan Sol, playing one of his best matches since his transfer from Valencia at the start of last season.

Valencia coach Heriberto Herrere wasn't too upset. He'd already said that this season was a time in which to rebuild and though he hoped to do well, he wasn't *expecting* his new team to set the league on fire.

Johnny Rep is a lot happier now, though he didn't shine in Madrid. He's got over his home sickness, started to master the language and suddenly Spain seems a much better place. Though he was at the centre of a row, when Ajax warned that they would protest to FIFA at Valencia's tardiness in arranging the friendly match which was part of the Rep transfer deal.

Valencia promised to fit it in as soon as possible and that seems to have satisfied Ajax for the time being.

Meanwhile Madrid continue to struggle. Their performance against Brugge upset the fans, and in the league they have yet to find form.

Miljanic says: "No team can go on playing well for three years without going through a bad patch," but that did little to assuage the critics, though Santiago Bernabeu, now 81 and recently re-elected for his 34th year as president, was not slow to come to the defence of the Yugoslav coach.

Miljanic, incidentally, recently had a fortunate escape when he and ex-Slav international Stanislav Kirasi were being driven through Belgium on what was, for Miljanic, a spying mission to Brugge.

Their car was in collision with a lorry, but both men escaped unhurt.

Miljanic may now, after that elimination, start thinking seriously about rejuvenating his squad . . . perhaps by taking up an option on a player Madrid have been eyeing for some time, Alberto Juanito of Burgos.

SPANISH clubs, contrary to popular belief, do not have an endless supply of money, and some recent figures have surprised a lot of people.

For example, Real Madrid lost £300,000 because of the UEFA ban on the use of Chamartin for their Champions' Cup home legs with Stal Mielec and Brugge.

And there's a cloud hanging over Barcelona. They are reported to be a staggering £4 million in the red. Malaga, too, have admitted that their books don't balance. But they're a mere £1 million out!

Juanito, a tricky and resilient winger, was cast off by Atletic Madrid after four years which included a serious leg injury in a friendly with Benfica to raise money for the victims of the Managua earthquake.

Juan Carlos Lorenzo, then Atletico's coach, let him go to Burgos once he was fit again, and decided he didn't want the player back after Juanito was sent off twice in his first 26 games there.

Fortunately Juanito pulled himself together and last season was one of the stars of their promotion campaign. This season he has maintained his form in the top grade, and earned a place in Ladislao Kubala's World Cup squad for the tie with Yugoslavia.

Juanito came on as substitute and was fouled by Vladislav Bogicevic in the closing minutes for that vital late penalty which Piri converted to see Spain home 1-0.

CLUB FOCUS—BASTIA—by JACK ROLLIN

Dzajic tops the scorers' chart

THE FACT that Bastia entered the autumn as leaders of the French First Division was a surprise to virtually everyone on the mainland and not a few privately at least on the Island of Corsica.

For Bastia who continued to raise the eyebrows of most people by finishing in the top half of the table last season are about to shake the country again by challenging for the title itself.

Many consider that Corsica is a country unto itself, despite being a department of France. But it in no way compares with Monaco for instance in the Principality of Monte Carlo who won the French League twice and the Cup on two occasions during the early 1960s.

But of course there are many more battles to be fought before Bastia emulate even part of this achievement.

Last season their outstanding player was the 30 year old Yugoslavian international outside-left Dragan Dzajic who succeeded in making the transition from Red Star Belgrade to the quiet atmosphere of Bastia on the Corsican coast.

This season he has been joined by Ognjen Petrovic the 28 year old Red Star goalkeeper who was a compatriot of his on the international side, too. As my colleague Andre Duclos reported recently, Bastia had another Yugoslavian goalkeeper at one time in Ilija Pantelic.

In fact Dzajic, the 'Magic Dragan' is the leading scorer with 10 goals.

Played

Still one of the reasons why Bastia are doing comparatively well at present is that they have played twice as many matches at home than away. And though they have only dropped one point at home they have picked up just one away from their own shores.

Sporting Club Bastiais have only been a professional club since 1965. Trainer Pierre Cahuzac a 49 year old former Toulouse player in his active days gained his reputation as a coach with Gazelec Ajaccio who won the French amateur title several times from their Corsican base. In 1974 he won the award as the most outstanding trainer in France and has been in charge five years.

This season his big success apart from Dzajic has been 30 year old centre-forward Francois Felix. In midfield Claude Papi the 27 year old French international has also been a key factor in the progress of Bastia and is the longest serving professional with the club.

Right-wing striker Jacques Zimako the coloured player from New Caledonia who was 25 in November has also been playing with rare spirit and of the first 30 goals scored by the club in the League he had five and was second highest marksman behind Felix with eight.

Full-backs Jean-Louis Cazes and Andre Burkhard are aged 25 and 26 respectively with the latter probably more noticeable with his wholehearted style despite being on the short side for a defender.

In the heart of the Bastia rearguard are Andre Guesdon once of Monaco incidentally and Charles Orlanducci who have been holding sway recently. Orlanducci is a Corsican who forsook his native land to play for Red Star Paris but has returned to play solidly as a stopper centre-back.

Completing the usual midfield trio are Georges Franceschetti the captain and Joseph Pasqualetti. Franceschetti was born in Bastia but made his footballing name with Marseille and now at 28 he is a vastly experienced schemer in chief. Pasqualetti another local lad is 20.

Completing the squad are Jean-Louis Devignes a 20 year old midfield player, experienced full-back Jean-Louis Luccini (28), midfield players Toussaint Andrietti (21) and Joseph Graziani (26), defenders Pierre Giudicelli (22) and Paul Marchioni (21) and reserve goalkeeper Marc Weller (25).

Surprise

Certainly Felix who made his name originally with Olympique Lyon could be the key to their chances of pulling off probably the greatest surprise in post-war French football history.

Felix — nicknamed "Fanfan" — later joined Bastia but after a short stay was on the move again to Paris F.C. and then Nimes before returning. A quick, skilful attacker he could be the difference between Bastia having merely a good season and a sensational one.

However the club's comparatively short career as a professional outfit is not exactly

Dragan Dzajic of Bastia — the top goalscorer in France.

against them. In their first season in the Second Division in 1965-66 they were fourth with Boukhalfa finishing top scorer with 18 out of 60 goals. They had made the play-offs but could not manage to win the test matches and gain promotion.

In 1966-67 they were third with Sansonetti their leading marksman with 23 of the 48 they scored. Again Bastia fared badly in the play-offs but in 1967-68 they succeeded in winning promotion a clear six points ahead of their nearest rivals as champions of Division Two.

Sansonetti had moved on by this time to Ajaccio who had won promotion from Corsica in 1967. Even so Bastia with this usual team carried the title impressively: Orsatti; Julliard, Borowski, Vincenti, Gandolfi; Ferrier, Zenier; Vescovalli, Blanc, Fiawoo, Ehrhardt or Papi. Blanc was top scorer with 13.

Leading

Then to finish sixth in the First Division averaging a point a game was a creditable achievement. Bastia's leading marksman was Serra with 14. But the following term they could do no better than finish one off the bottom. However this time they did better in the play-offs and retained their First Division status.

Ironically two of their former players were scoring goals in the Second Division by then, Blanc for Nancy and Fiawoo for Avignon — the two clubs that Bastia overcame in the play-offs to keep their place!

In 1970-71 Bastia did not have a particularly successful season but with 17th place and three clubs beneath them in the larger sized First Division they were safe enough. At the end of that term Felix was in the Lyon side beaten in the Cup Final by Rennes. But the next season in which Bastia finished ninth in the championship, they themselves reached the Cup Final losing 2-1 to Marseille — with Felix this time in their colours but again on the defeated side. Felix was top scorer for Bastia in the League with 14 goals. And since then the club has continued to make progress and just how much we must wait to see.

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STOCKPORT, ENGLAND

WORLD SOCCER Newsdesk

Oleg Blokin (U.S.S.R.)

Negative approach by USSR

RUSSIAN FOOTBALL has been very contradictory during the past two seasons. The success of Dynamo Kiev (also the national side) in 1975 — the Cup Winners Cup and the Super Cup, an easy qualification for the last eight of the European Championship — was followed by a terrible 1976 — defeats in the European Cup, European Championship and, finally, the Olympic Games (from Dan Cristea).

So, I took the opportunity of watching four Russian league matches in order to get a clearer picture of their soccer. The matches I saw were: Torpedo Moscow v. Karpatto Lvov (2-0); TSKA Moscow v. Sahter Donetk (1-0); Dynamo Moscow v. Dynamo Kiev (1-0); Dynamo Moscow v. Zarea Vorosilovgrad (1-0).

The quality of the games was quite low. I saw very few good players, with the exception of the Kiev stars . . . Buriak, Troskin, Matvienko, Blokin. I think only Astapowski (goalkeeper) and Olsanski (libero) from TSKA; Iurin and Saharov (forwards) of Torpedo; Gontar (goalkeeper), Gherskovich and Evriujihin (forwards) of Dynamo would rank among the class players of Europe.

Even the tactics are created to hinder the development of personalities. The teams prepare well, tactically, but in a defensive way. Most teams operate with one or two forwards, who rely on long balls out of defence. Not surprisingly, the number of goals are few.

In the past Russian football was well-known for its good, cool defenders but the new breed seem very ordinary.

Of the seven teams I watched Torpedo seemed to be the best. They led the league after four games and they play the most creative and fluent football, with a style similar to that of Kiev in 1975. They have a great leader in their captain Iurin, a very fine ball player and a good reader of the game. Torpedo are popular with the fans, too.

Kiev are facing a crisis. They have the best players but seem to be suffering from the enormous number of matches played over the past two seasons. Their failures destroyed their prestige and now they are whistled at by the fans. When I watched them against Moscow Dynamo they were bottom of the league. Kiev lost and the people seemed to enjoy that.

Moscow fans won't forgive Blokin and Co for failing as representatives of the USSR and the experiment of playing Kiev as the national side has been scrapped. It was sad to see a player like Blokin — who limped through much of the match after rough treatment from a Dynamo defender — being subjected to the displeasure of the crowd.

For the crowd Kiev are the past . . . Torpedo the future.

Egypt gets ready for Ethiopia

THE Egyptian Football Federation called a temporary halt to the Super League to enable the national side to prepare for its vital World Cup matches against Ethiopia.

A Yugoslav physical fitness expert was summoned to Cairo in an endeavour to ensure that the Egyptian players were as fit as possible to overcome their rivals' anticipated speed and established fitness.

Egypt, in fact, were due to meet Ethiopia four times in two weeks. In addition to their World Cup matches the two sides face each other in the FIFA Youth World Cup.

Arch rivals Al Ahly and Al Zamalek met for the first time in 16 months to celebrate a sporting festival in mid-October. Because of the two division league last season these old rivals did not meet but since the start of the Egyptian league they have clashed 37 times — with 16 wins to Ahly and seven to Zamalek.

Ahly won this latest encounter 2-1 and most of Egypt went "red." The Ahly shirts are red and the side is nicknamed the "Red Devils."

Congo riot

THE WORLD Cup qualifying competition has already produced one fatality. In Yaounde, the Zambian referee awarded a penalty late in the match and was apparently attacked by Congo-Brazzaville players. Cameroun soldiers and police intervened and in the ensuing fracas a police officer was killed.

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Io Presidente —sensational, revelatory, remarkable

MANY IS the football book which makes claims to being sensational, revelatory and remarkable. Few can ever have such substantial claims to such adjectives as Alvaro Marchini's IO PRESIDENTE, I The President, published late in October by Trevi publishers of Rome. Never, surely, has a President, or, as we would have it, Chairman of a club produced such a riveting book. And seldom can such a comprehensive job of demolition have been done on a celebrated figure in the game; in this case the Argentinian manager, Helenio Herrera.

Marchini, however, is a most uncommon figure, doubly uncommon among those flatulent fellows, Italian club Presidents, most of them suffering horribly from the *commendatore* syndrome, monsters of pomposity and self-esteem. How well I recall one of Marchini's predecessors, the plump and pompous Sacerdoti, President of Roma when I myself lived and was working there over twenty years ago, a man, dead now, who seemed to move about in a little cloud of self-regard, attended by a little knot of sycophants. *"Ma Lei parla un italiano perfetto, Signor Glanville!"* he cried, enraptured, when I had cause to talk to him on the telephone, a couple of years after I'd left Rome, "you speak perfect Italian!" I don't suppose I spoke it any better or worse than when I was living, as a 23 year old, in Rome, but it had simply been beneath him to notice it.

Marchini, of all things, is, or was, a Communist President, an ex-partisan who fought bravely against the Nazis, remained a Communist, but became a millionaire. Italian Communists are *sui generis*; one can admire the decency and essential simplicity of a man like Marchini without in any way sympathising with his doubtful political sympathies. It is still a little obscure to me why he should allow himself to be persuaded to become President of Roma, surely one of the most beleaguered, difficult, displeasing and disenchanting jobs even in the morass of Italian football. For Roman football is Italian football only . . . more so. A spiteful, corrupt, shameless sporting Press, fans who make the feared and notorious Ancient Roman mob look almost benign by comparison.

Marchini, when he assumed the Presidency in 1966, also inherited Helenio Herrera, who had been jettisoned by Internazionale of Milan, and hired at an astonishing 100 million lire, £70,000, a year, which would in due course be doubled; just as Herrera, among other things, pocketed twice the bonus of his players for any victory.

Woolly, italicised passages

Marchini begins his book, marred only by vague, woolly, italicised passages of obscure philosophising in a time honoured but vexing Italian manner, with the dreadful story of the death of Giuliano Taccola in March, 1969; itself a most serious indictment of Herrera and his alleged lack of human concern.

According to Marchini's account, Taccola, an extremely promising and lively young centre-forward, had been ill for some weeks. Tonsilitis was suspected and his tonsils were taken out, but there was no improvement in his condition. Marchini brought in another doctor to assist Roma's own, and he, in late February, insisted that Taccola was suffering from a cardiac murmur.

Herrera allegedly would have none of this; he is quoted as protesting that "the doctors understand nothing. Taccola is an athlete. They are not sports doctors." Taccola himself tended to side with Herrera; in the view of Marchini because he was afraid of dropping out of the team and thereby losing large sums in bonuses.

So in Genoa Taccola was picked to play against Sampdoria, but he lasted only half the game, and on his return ran a temperature once more and was put on antibiotics. Herrera, backed by the Roman sports Press, continued to insist that the doctors were wrong. Taccola improved under care, and in the middle of March Herrera announced that he would take him to Sardinia for the match with Cagliari, not to play him, but simply to give a stimulus to his morale.

Brian Glanville reviews a book which has caused a stir in Italy

But although Taccola didn't play, he did join in training on the beach, in a biting wind. At 11 o'clock on the Sunday morning he went down again with a fever. He naturally did not play in the game, but afterwards, in the dressing-room, he collapsed. He was given an injection of penicillin, but it did not revive him. He was dead when they got him to the hospital.

Marchini wasn't there; indeed, had he not been abed with influenza, it is possible that the whole dreadful occurrence wouldn't have taken place. He was incensed that Herrera should take the aeroplane hotfoot to the mainland, bringing with him all those players but a devoted handful who insisted on remaining behind, incensed that Herrera should then insist they all stay in the *ritiro,* the training camp, from which he had angrily to order him to release them, incensed that on the day of the funeral Herrera should ask him permission to pay public condolence to Taccola's widow after. Marchini says, having failed to be in touch with her in any way, earlier in the week. Marchini accuses him of wanting to make the gesture only because the television cameras were there.

Then there is the tragic-comic story of Bertogna, the Spearhead Who Never Was, an extraordinary story of manipulation, ill judgement, intransigence and light mindedness. While Ranucci was the President of Roma, Herrera decided that the man to solve the team's goal scoring problems was a certain 20 year old called Bertogna, who had gone to the Florence club Fiorentina from Venice. The price was a cool 180 million lire; which would then have been about £120,000. Herrera allegedly mounted a campaign in the Roman Press, particularly through a journalist called Lo Jacono on the *Corriere dello Sport,* demanding that Roma sign Bertogna.

Coolly and casually

Baglini, the President of Fiorentina, advised the Roma directors to take not Bertogna but the more celebrated Chiarugi, a talented winger. Herrera wouldn't hear of it. So Ranucci, Marchini and the player agent Walter Crociani drove up to Florence to conclude the deal for Bertogna, one hot Sunday. On the way Walter Crociani, the agent in the deal, told them that though he was making money on the deal, it was an absurd one; Bertogna wasn't a striker, and if Herrera wanted him, it was only because he had once scored a goal against Inter when Herrera was manager.

By this time, however, there was no escape; even when it turned out that Corciani was right, that Bertogna wasn't a striker; even when it transpired that Bertogna played in contact lenses and that he was tearfully reluctant to go from Fiorentina to Roma at all. The transfer was signed and sealed, Bertogna came to Rome, and wasn't even given a game in the friendlies.

In the end, says Marchini, Herrera coolly and casually suggested he be sold, as he would never make a player; he hadn't the temperament.

Marchini also tells of travelling to Strasburg for a match, as President, and to be greeted by a smiling supporter who told him he was not really a fan, *un tifoso,* that he himself had lied to his wife, and left Rome for Strasburg although his child was having an operation that very morning. This, he told the President, was being a *real* fan. Marchini was as revolted by this manifestation of inhumanity, or perhaps one would better call it dehumanisation, as he was by those others; and by the behaviour of the Roman crowd — mob would surely be a better word — at the Stadio Olimpico when they carried Herrera in triumph after the last match of the unsucessful season; which Roma lost. Clearly the book will never be translated and published here, which is a pity. To those few among you who can read Italian, I will say merely: read it.

EASY WIN AGAINST WALES

WEST GERMAN Newsletter by Arthur Rotmil

THE WEST GERMAN national team began the new season with a relatively easy 2-0 win against Wales in their centenary match at Cardiff. Since the Germans as World Cup holders are automatically qualified for the next final tournament in 1978, they do not have to play any preliminary matches and thus will miss the important ingredient of competitive football over the next two years. In view of this the Football Federation (DFB) have arranged a series of friendly games both home and away.

After Wales the next assignment was the "revenge" encounter with Czechoslovakia who, it will be remembered, beat the holders West Germany in that memorable European Championship final in Belgrade on penalties. The Germans hoped to square the account in a prestige meeting at Hannover on November 17. Next opponents will be France, away, then Yugoslavia in Belgrade, and Northern Ireland in Cologne. In June the squad will embark on a tour of South and Central America with matches v. Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil and Mexico.

From the start of this season until they depart for the World Cup in Argentina in 1978, the West Germans will have played 19 full internationals. In addition, they have arranged 14 matches for their B-team. The management decided some time ago that "Under-23 Teams" provide little guidance to the potential of young players. But a B-team, which includes players of any age, can be a useful stepping stone into the full senior side.

The match with Wales gave the national manager Helmut Schön a good opportunity to experiment with a different formation and new men. Herbert Zimmermann 22 (Cologne) as central defender and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge 21 (Bayern Munich) at outside right won their first caps. From the team which played in the last international, the European Championship final v. CSSR, Bonhof, Wimmer and Hölzenbein were absent through injury, goalkeeper Maier was rested, whilst Schwarzenbeck only came in at half time and Dieter Müller even much later in the game.

Zimmermann didn't have a good game, not being quite fit, but Rummenigge impressed with his confidence, dribbling skill and all round adaptability, which belied his age. But even this drastically weakened team was good enough to overcome Wales, thanks to goals from Beckenbauer and Heynckes.

Cramer signs on

IN THE Bundesliga the big talking point has been the astonishing fluctuations of form shown by European champions Bayern Munich. Consider some of their recent results: A 9-0 win over Tennis Borussia, was followed by a scrambled 6-5 victory at Bochum, but then the Bavarians slumped at home by 0-7(!) to Schalke, their heaviest defeat since joining the Bundesliga in 1965. Just a week later Bayern knocked out the holders Hamburger SV by 5-1 in the Cup!

These scores and such a series were a test of nerves, not only for the players and fans, but more so for the management. Nonetheless, coach Dettmar Cramer was given another five-year contract, so obviously president Neudecker is still pleased with his work.

Centre forward Gerd Müller celebrated last month another new record, held until now by the great Uwe Seeler. Müller has now scored a total of 557 goals — Seeler's record stood at 551. Müller's figure is divided as follows:

In the *Bundesliga* 312 goals; national team 68; DFB-Cup 63; European Champions Cup 33; Cup Winners' Cup 20; Fairs Cup 7; Regional League South 35; *Bundesliga*-Promotion pool 4; League Cup 12; Super Cup 3 — total 557

Meanwhile champions Borussia Mönchengladbach have also established a new mark. No other club has started the season so well by gaining 16 points from the opening nine games.

Borussia had to play against Italy's champions AC Torino in the European Cup without goalkeeper Wolfgang Kleff who has not renewed his contract and centre forward Horst Köppel who was not eligible having returned from America after the August 15 deadline.

The fine football served up in this, now widely regarded as the best League in the world, is certainly drawing the crowds in ever increasing numbers. Over 3 million spectators watched the opening twelve rounds, for an average of 30,000 per match — the best figures for eleven years!

Spanish clubs fare well against England

by PAUL RADFORD

NO CLUB in Europe is every likely to welcome the prospect of being drawn against an English club in any of the three major European cup competitions. English teams are always likely to put up a hard fight in the cut-and-thrust of cup football, partly no doubt because of the enthusiasm for cup-ties created by years of competing for the F.A. Cup and Football League Cup.

Continental sides would be well advised to cross their fingers and hope their club does not come out of the hat with an English team whenever the European Cup draws are made.

The records bear this out. Clubs from only one country have a better than 50-50 record against the English. The country is Spain and its clubs have won 16 out of the 30 ties played against English teams since European competition begun.

The very name of Real Madrid is, of course, enough to strike terror into the heart of any player. Yet, strangely, it is not Real which is responsible for the English downfall. Real have only won two out of five ties with our clubs. The real 'bete noire' is Barcelona with a magnificent record of having knocked out English teams on six occasions, losing only twice.

Taking games, as opposed to ties, the England v Spain debate is inconclusive with 23 matches won by each, though it should be pointed out that Spanish sides have a clear lead in terms of goals scored.

The only other country which can hold its own with England is Turkey, though this should, perhaps, be dismissed as a fluke. English and Turkish teams have met only twice in Europe, and thanks to Fenerbahce's remarkable feat in knocking Manchester City out of the 1968/69 European Cup, honours have been kept even.

On the positive side it must be said that English clubs have an excellent record against their rivals from other major countries, including Italy, West Germany and Hungary. In fact, no less than 14 countries of the 29 our clubs have faced have never won a tie against us and eight of them have not even won a match.

Away leg

Judging by the statistics, the clubs which fear our teams most must be from the Communist bloc of Eastern Europe. In 23 ties against clubs from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria, English clubs have won . . . 23 times! One ought to feel just a bit sorry for the Czechoslovaks though. In six of the seven ties in which they have met English teams, they have succeeded in winning the home leg — only to go down on aggregate with a disastrous away leg.

Austria is another country with a remarkably good record of winning home legs, and then failing to make headway once their teams reach England.

The real chopping-blocks for England have been the Luxembourg teams who have conceded an average of almost seven goals a game.

Overall English clubs have won 218 of the 302 ties played in Europe up to the end of last season. The trend looks likely to continue — as long as we don't see too much of Barcelona.

English clubs in Europe

		TW	TL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Spain	14	16	62	23	16	23	95	111	62
2	Turkey	1	1	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
3	Italy	16	10	52	20	15	17	62	59	55
4	Netherlands	10	6	32	15	10	7	63	37	40
5	West Germany	19	11	58	25	15	18	102	72	65
6	Hungary	11	6	35	20	7	8	51	29	47
7	Sweden	2	1	6	3	3	0	12	4	9
8	Yugoslavia	11	5	32	18	7	7	49	36	43
9	Portugal	13	5	37	22	7	8	70	43	51
10	Belgium	16	6	43	26	6	11	90	50	58
11	Scotland	14	4	36	19	10	7	54	27	48
12	Greece	4	1	10	5	4	1	23	7	14
13	France	5	1	12	6	3	3	22	13	15
14	East Germany	11	2	26	17	5	4	37	15	39
15	Switzerland	9	1	20	16	0	4	53	18	32
16	Soviet Union	2	0	4	2	2	0	10	4	6
17	Finland	2	0	4	3	1	0	14	4	7
18	Malta	2	0	4	3	1	0	18	1	7
19	Bulgaria	2	0	4	4	0	0	8	1	8
20	Northern Ireland	3	0	6	4	0	2	12	5	8
21	Luxembourg	3	0	6	5	1	0	40	1	11
22	Irish Republic	3	0	6	6	0	0	33	4	12
23	Iceland	3	0	6	6	0	0	35	4	12
24	Austria	4	0	8	4	1	3	12	4	9
25	Denmark	4	0	8	5	2	1	27	11	12
26	Poland	5	0	10	7	0	3	24	11	14
27	Czechoslovakia	7	0	14	8	0	6	30	11	16
28	Rumania	7	0	15	11	3	1	39	8	25
29	Norway	8	0	16	14	1	1	71	11	29

No ties played against clubs from Albania, Cyprus or Wales.

TW = ties won TL = ties lost

Turks in shake-up...

HASAN CEMALI from Istanbul

ON THE eve of their World Cup qualifying round game in Dresden, the President of the Turkish Football Federation and the national coach resigned.

What is behind the resignations of Hasan Polat (President) and Coskun Ozarn, which have plunged the Federation into turmoil? About 24 hours before the resignations were announced the Minister of Sports publicly stated that should Turkey lose against East Germany the President and Coach should account for the defeat.

It was stated that Polat resigned because of mental exhaustion but his "quit" decision came so close behind the Ministry proclamation that it was felt this was the true reason.

Nobody in Turkey would say that the Football Federation's administrators have been without fault during their seven years in office. However, none could deny that they have been a progressive influence here.

As Mr Polat left his office for the last time he emphasised that his decision was due to mental exhaustion. But he went on to point out that his state of mind had been brought about by the constant interference in the affairs of the Football Federation by officials of the Sports Ministry.

What was the point, stated Mr Polat, of having a Turkish Football Federation with a President and other officials if members of the Sports Ministry constantly by-passed them and gave orders directly to players and coaches. In this situation the function of a Football Federation serves merely as scapegoat when things go wrong.

Keir Radnedge asks whether a player's

CAN YOU POS LENGTH OF A

EVER SINCE the abolition of the maximum wage of Britain, we have heard an endless repetition of that old argument that "a sportsman's life is but a short one" in defence of the spiralling level of transfer shares, pay and bonus rates and commercial exploitation.

But what do we really mean by "short"? And isn't it perhaps true that a player who thinks his earning power ends in his early thirties has been duped by a system notorious for doing next to nothing to prepare its servants for the outside world?

What prompted me to consider the question was the assertion of new motor racing champion, James Hunt, that he wouldn't take full commercial advantage of his "name" until after he had retired.

Whether that name will be worth as much then is clearly arguable. But Hunt is a welcome example of a famous sportsman who believes that as far as the public is concerned he is NOT dead when he retires.

Couldn't that be true also of footballers? For instance, how do you define the length of a sportsman's career? Ten years? More?

What about a man like Santiago Bernabeu? He was playing for Madrid FC (later Real) in the early 1920s, yet has just been re-elected (at 81) for a 34th year in office. Did he become any less of a sportsman when his playing career ended? Certainly not. He only *gained* in those magnetic fields of power and influence.

Financial

In the same way, even in these days when more football clubs (but not yet enough) consult financial advisers and accountants and the like, there is still the need to drive home one point:

That a footballer's life is not over when he quits playing.

Yes, I know, hundreds go on to become coaches and managers, hopping from one club to another as long as the *mana* of their reputation holds good. But there is no stability in that position and who can blame some of those with intelligence and imagination for aiming higher?

An ex-footballer may be making a later start in his semi-new career than other men, but that's no reason why he shouldn't succeed. Equally, he can fail too. Fame itself is no guarantee of success.

There was an outstanding example recently. When Juventus travelled to Britain to play Manchester United in the UEFA Cup, their party was met by John Charles. The big Welshman had been one of their three great stars in the late 1950s — the others were skipper and schemer Giampiero Boniperti, and the wilful and skilful Omar Sivori.

The reunion was what is known in the newspaper trade as "a good picture". So, the next day we saw pictures of Charles with Boniperti. What was not spelled out was the massive contrast: Boniperti is now president of Juventus, Charles was shortly to take over a pub near the Leeds ground.

Juventus were also in the news for other reasons — their interest in Kevin Keegan and Johan Cruyff, now that Italian league president Franco Carraro seemed resigned to the frontiers being reopened as a result of a report on the implications of Common Market membership.

Cruyff has become one example of how a man's reputation can suffer, be tarnished, by his fear of the bleak future and the desire to make as much as he can while he can.

Some time ago in *World Soccer* I listed figures revealing that though Barcelona have been paying him 'only' some £100,000 a year to play football, this is only one tenth of his total annual earnings (about £1 million).

Perhaps it's hypercritical to criticise Cruyff. How would the rest of us have reacted if, three years ago, Barcelona had come calling with an offer which topped even an Ajax contract linked to a life pension?

What makes Spain so tempting, of course, is the difference in tax rates. Yet Holland itself is still a place where the right players with the right clubs at the right time can live more than comfortably.

Look at Bjorr Nordqvist. The 34-year-old sweeper who is now just four caps from the coveted century, left his native Sweden (where he was what passes for an amateur) for PSV Eindhoven four years ago. Last summer he returned home, to IFK Goteborg.

Nordqvist, however, needed the incentive of a convenient job with the Volvo motor coporation to go back. As he said: "Playing football in Holland is like one long, paid holiday."

Intelligent

Where is all this leading to? Surely to the realisation that for an intelligent man, his present playing career is not the be-all and end-all in soccer.

And the dead-end tragedy of a coaching/managing role is not the only alternative to an anonymity plagued by memory.

Those men who do come to the top of the managerial pile all, sooner or later, meet some calamity.

Nils Liedholm, another Swede, a wonderful inside forward and later a perceptive sweeper (one of the first to be effective in *Calcio*) ended his career with Milan in the late 1950s. The faithful club servant, he stayed on, first as youth coach, then as scout, then as assistant coach, until finally — through sheer process of elimination — he was appointed manager/coach. Liedholm must have had mixed feelings. For that appointment was the beginning of the end of his long, happy association with Milan.

He lasted a couple of years, but then even he had to pay the price and was thrown into the general melee with all the rest. Now he is with Roma after slipping from one club to another.

Liedholm's fate is sooner or later going to befall another great name of the fifties — Lajos Tichy. He first came to international attention in 1955 when he merged as one of the brightest new youngsters coming up through the Honved ranks.

Mike Channon, of England and Southampton, who has several business interests and an assured future.

earning power stops when his career finishes

SIBLY DEFINE THE SPORTSMAN'S LIFE?

His ferocious shot even then marked him out as the eventual replacement for Ferenc Puskas, and, of course, his chance came earlier than anyone expected, when Puskas (along with Sandor Kocsis and Zoltan Czibor) stayed in Western Europe after the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

Tichy went on to score 49 goals in 71 internationals before retiring to the Honved coaching staff. Now he too has, in effect, been given notice to quit: He's been appointed new chief coach. He might, of course, prove a glutton for punishment, like Carlo Parola.

A star with Juventus in the late 1940s and early fifties, he became chief coach in 1960 and spent two years at the helm. Was that enough? Certainly not. In 1974 Parola was named manager again. Two more years and again, this summer, his second reign was at an end.

Retired

The verdict must be that, if ageing footballers want to hang on in a fairly secure post in the sport which is the one metier they know, they'd do better to try for an office job.

In the first two Champions' Cup finals Real Madrid's wing halves (You remember that term?) were Miguel Munoz and Jose Maria Zarraga. Munoz retired in 1959, became a youth coach, was then put in charge of affiliated second division Plus Ultra before returning in 1960 to take over the di Stefano/Puskas-Gento side.

The team grew old and disenchanted, but Munoz stayed on, leading new Real teams to new championships. But in so doing he committed the worst crime of all — near-total success. Once Madrid hit (for them) a bad patch, the fans' criticism grew so virulent that he could stand the pressure no longer and resigned.

He took a year's break, then went to Granada. After one season they were relegated and he was sacked. Now, as actors say, he is again "resting".

Zarraga, on the other hand, a quiet man with a rogue of a tackle, took a different path after retiring in 1962. He had made his studies and turned to business management, moving cautiously and steadily from one club to another. At the moment he's with second division Alaves. Not so exciting, but he seems to have a much greater control on his career than Munoz.

Spanish football has also thrown up a couple of lawyers who have used their professional ability to further football's cause. Jose Luis Perezpaya, centre forward with both Atletico and Real Madrid in the early 1950s, was for several years president of the Spanish football federation. Isacio Calleja, an international left back with Atletico in the late fifties and early sixties, did some sterling work for the Spanish footballers' association.

To take a further example of a players' progress, just consider Sir Alf Ramsey. Admittedly, he may be treated as an extra special case; a famous full back with Tottenham, then triumphant England manager, he later took up a post with a sportswear firm and is now also a director of Birmingham City. Respectability indeed!

Bernabeu and Boniperti are exceptions, too, of course. For every one player who makes the grade in soccer "off the pitch" there are thousands who sink without trace.

But . . . how many out of those thousands lost to the game could have brought their professional knowledge and experience to bear in a most useful way if they hadn't had it drummed into them that once they'd topped 30, soccer had nothing left to offer in return for all they'd given to soccer?

So little is done to find ex-players a place in the future. It's not enough to say they are paid well. That is the case only with the upper crust, and as an excuse it's only a way for the game to buy off its own conscience.

After all, what do footballers know but football? Particularly today, when they are shunted around from bus to plane, told when they are allowed to go out, when they must stay home. It's such a cocoon.

Perhaps the saddest comment I ever heard was that of Alfredo di Stefano after his release by kidnappers in Venezuela: "They tried to explain to me what it was all about. But I couldn't pay attention. I told them I was not interested in politics, only in sport . . ."

Feyenoord lead in Holland . . .

IT IS dangerous to predict, after just 14 matches, that Feyenoord will win the Dutch championship. There is still a long way to go. But Feyenoord have dropped just four points, one against Ajax who drew 1-1 in Rotterdam. Both goals came from Johnny Dusbaba . . . the young Ajax defender first deflected a De Jong shot into his own net but then equalised after a beautiful one-two with Ruud Geels.

Ajax and Feyenoord are setting the pace once more, but AZ'67 and PSV are in contention. The champions trailed by seven points but they are in the market for a new player. Coach Kees Rijvers, who is obliged to do something now that PSV are out of the European Cup (defeated by St. Etienne), has looked at several players, including Alan Hudson of Stoke City. They badly need a centre forward as Swedish international Ralf Edstrom still suffers from a back injury.

Recovered

AZ'67, coached by former Ajax chief Hans Kraay, are on the way back. The team, led by Willem van Hanegem, had a bad start but have recovered to fourth.

The AZ'67 club doctor, Jimmy van Rompu, recently dominated the Dutch newspapers who are allegedly stating that he knew the names of at least four clubs where players used dope. The doctor says that he has given players dope in the past, but can prove nothing and questions were asked in the House of Commons.

Outstanding players in this season's league competition are Krol, Ling and Geels (top scorer with 14 goals) of Ajax; Rene van der Kerkhof (PSV), Piet Wildschut (FC Twente), Ray Clarke (the ex-Mansfield Town striker now scoring for Sparta) and Nice Jensen, Wim Jansen and Michel van de Korput of Feyenoord.

Henri van der Steen

French hit out at referee Foote

THE MATCH lies now well in the past, in remote October, before even the France v. Eire game, yet when the scores ultimately come to be totted up, it may still have to be said that Mr. Ian Foote of Scotland knocked France out of the World Cup. Never can one remember such a fusillade of outraged abuse for a referee of a French international match as descended upon poor hapless Mr. Foote — one hopes and assumed he cannot read French — after that 2-2 draw in Sofia.

Even Roger Piantoni, the former France inside-left and a hero of the 1958 World Cup, attacked Foote's refereeing as abominable, while a journal as responsible as *France Football* held him up to virtual ridicule. It would be interesting to know whether he has considered suing them for remarks I have not the slightest intention of reproducing here. Inept was the kindest thing almost any French commentator had to say about Mr Foote.

The charge, or charges, against him was, or were, that *item*, he did refuse a blatant penalty to France; *item*, that he did grant a non-existent penalty to Bulgaria; *item*, that he did grant to Bulgaria a goal which should have been given offside. All sorts of heavy hints appeared in our Press about the way Bulgaria have allegedly been favoured by referees in Sofia in the past, though this is doubtless wholly unfair to Mr. Foote. What does seem beyond doubt is that he had a most unhappy day in Sofia, one which may cost the French team, which played so well with Michel Platini in marvellous form, their ticket to Argentina; or wherever else the next World Cup is eventually played.

Integral relationship

Let us be more cheerful and positive. Let us talk about Laval, the little country club which hesitated before it said yes to the First Division this season — and has now of course accepted its promotion from the Second, succeeding beyond its dreams. True, half last season's team was changed, as I have pointed out here before.

Nevertheless there is something very refreshing about little Laval, about their integral relationship with the town itself, the way the players move about freely and agreeably among the populace, the way they are democratically and fruitfully encouraged by their manager, M. Le Millinaire, to take a part in the planning of tactics. A particularly good example was given when they played powerful Lyon, and all got together to thrash out how best they could contain the clever little Serge Chiesa, and stop him working out his wiles with the French international centre-forward, Lacombe.

A somewhat elaborate plan was devised, and worked, with the Yugoslav Kostic tightly marking Chiesa, but with cover ready in case the clever Chiesa slipped away from him. It was also planned that Chiesa should be cut off as far as possible from Lacombe. That worked by and large, too.

One of the most interesting features of the team's success has been the re-emergence of Raymond Keruzore, once a left winger with Rennes, with whom he quarrelled bitterly and was disputably cast out, and Olympique Marseille, now a midfield man; as he was in that 3-0 home win over Lyon, watched by 15,000 spectators. Keruzore is really a new man at Laval. He rejoiced in the easy going democracy of the team, in its close, familial atmosphere. As he points out, it now trains twice a day whereas till this season it trained merely three times a week, and this has made an immense difference.

A 63rd minute goal by Argentine international Oswaldo Piazza gave St. Etienne a 1-0 win over PSV Eindhoven of Holland in their second round, first leg, European Cup tie.

"Keru" needed this kind of a regeneration, for he still feels, rightly or wrongly, that he was made the scapegoat at Rennes. His most deeply satisfying moment was inevitably when he went to Rennes with Laval, scored, and enabled Laval to beat his old club. Untypically for him, Keru went to the centre-spot, knelt, and saluted the crowd; who later carried him shoulder high off the field. He said ironically and wryly that he has wanted to dedicate this goal to the President of Rennes.

Young professionals

The French Army team will play host to the British Army in the Kentish Cup on January 26, hoping to wipe out the embarrassment of last season's defeat at Aldershot by the all amateur British eleven. As usual the French team is all based on the Battalion de Joinville at Fontainebleau, and consists of young professionals; including Larios, the midfield player who has figures in the Saint Etienne League team this season and De Rocco, the first choice keeper for Lyon.

There is conflict over the future of the French Second Division. As you may know, it is at present divided into two groups of eighteen clubs who play no midweek matches. The amateur clubs — which are about as amateur as your Isthmian and Athenian League clubs used to be before the abolition of the category; in fact slightly less — want things to stay as they are.

The genuinely, or overtly, professional clubs are not at all of the same persuasion. They want two groups of twenty clubs with midweek matches to be played. As the case of Laval has shown and suggested, the more or less amateur clubs can find themselves in strange difficulties if they ever gain promotion.

News from France by Andre Duclos

MENOTTI BANS TRANSFERS

● ARGENTINA'S FA has banned the transfer abroad of 37 players chosen by national team coach Cesar Menotti for possible World Cup duty. This list may be changed at any moment in accordance with Menotti's requirements and he is also allowed to increase it up to 66 players.

● MENOTTI'S squad played a good first half against Chile in Buenos Aires in the first leg of this year's Dittborn Cup and scored through Ardiles and Bertoni. After the interval Chile marked more tightly and defended more while Argentina's play lacked continuity (final score 2-0). The second leg has been postponed until next year, but Argentina has further internationals scheduled against Peru (home and away) and the Soviet Union before the end of November.

● CHILE, preparing for World Cup preliminary group matches against Peru and Ecuador in February and March, also drew 0-0 with Uruguay in the first leg of the Pinto Duran Cup (in Santiago), but their squad picked from three leading clubs — champions Union Española (9 players), Everton (5), Colo Colo (3) — is, in the words of coach Caupolican Pena, an emergency line up because he hopes to be able to include players presently with foreign clubs in the World Cup qualifying games.

● URUGUAY'S Argentine born coach, Juan Eduardo Hohberg, picked 35 players to start preparing on September 17 for their World Cup preliminary matches against Bolivia and Venezuela (also in February and March). It is a young squad — average age 22 — picked for speed. Although it includes a fair amount of experience, it is not top heavy with players from Montevideo's two leading clubs, Peñarol and Nacional, as has been the case in the past. But as with other countries preparing for World Cup games, line-ups and possibilities may still change and we will have a closer look at them nearer the date.

● BRAZIL may call in their former World Cup star Pele to join their World Cup technical committee, according to Pele himself. He said there had been preliminary talks with national team coach Osvaldo Brandao and he was awaiting an official invitation from the Brazilian Sports Confederation. But he discounted reports that he would replace Brandao as coach. His playing contract with the New York Cosmos has another three years to run.

Back to Argentina's preparations for the 1978 World Cup finals . . .

● A government World Cup Committee (EAM 78) spokesman announced recently that World Cup tickets are likely to cost between five and six dollars for most games but up to 60 dollars for deciding games. The idea is to sell tickets combined with travelling and hotel reservations.

● Latest progress report on stadiums being built at three World Cup venues indicate that 40% of the stadium on Cordoba has been completed, 30% of that in Mendoza and 20% in Mar del Plata. Meanwhile work on renovating the other three World Cup stadiums belonging to River Plate and Velez Sarsfield in Buenos Aires and Central in Rosario was scheduled to start on November 20 and the clubs will not be able to play their home matches there from March 1st until after the World Cup finals.

● River Plate's stadium, where the final is scheduled to be played, is presently enclosed by stands on only three sides and the remaining stand to be built will increase the stadium's capacity from 60 to 80,000. Outstanding in the plans are the press facilities which include individual desks with phones and internal TV circuit (to replay important plays such as goals) in the press box, interviewing rooms and a press room (for 600 journalists) equipped with typewriters, telex, telephones, etc. — all of which will be reached by a separate entrance and lifts exclusive for journalists. Facilities at the other stadiums are expected to be similar.

How close to paradise can you get?

and on to Colombia 1986

TWO YEARS ago Colombia was chosen to stage the 1986 World Cup finals and it is felt even inside the country that this was more due to the influence of Colombian FA president Alfonso Senior with FIFA than the country's actual capacity.

At the moment there is not a single stadium in the country remotely in condition to stage World Cup final games, even though Bogota's El Campin has been used for World Cup preliminary and South American championship matches. Stadiums in the rest of the country lack the most elementary necessities to be able to even renovate them, so that what Colombia really has to do is build half a dozen new ones. Details on renovating and figures given to FIFA at the time lacked veracity.

Stadiums

If things looked bleak in Argentina as far as stadiums, communications, hotel accommodation and travelling were concerned, the problem is much greater in Colombia.

Still, 10 years is a long time to go . . . but at press time not even an organising committee had been named.

by Eric Weil

The latest River Plate-Boca Juniors classic in the Argentine National Championship finished 1-1. Here River Plate defender Comelles clears with a spectacular overhead kick ("chilena") among a crowd of Boca attackers with River Plate's goalkeeper Landaburu anxiously looking on.

UEFA RESPONSIBLE FOR TWO THIRDS OF WORLD FOOTBALL...

Searching the Soccer Scene with ARTHUR ROTMIL

THE EUROPEAN club competitions are sometimes criticised by journalists and commentators who should know better, but mostly by those who do not take the trouble to check their facts. It is true that some matches spark off violence, on the field, that occasionally the hooligans spoil a game, or that certain referees are not up to standard, but these aspects are quite common, in the English Football League for instance, though no one has, as yet, suggested — as in the case of European tournaments — that the League should be abolished.

In European competitions the overriding factor is surely this: These international meetings have raised the playing standards of football throughout Europe, they have given the fans in so-called underdeveloped countries the unique chance to see some of the best teams and now come the statistics which confirm the incredible rise in popularity of these contests.

Last season, for example, attendances at matches in three competitions boasted an increase of nearly 1 million spectators over the previous year! This represents an improvement of a staggering 21.5 per cent!

Needless to say that a large number of clubs were able to cash in handsomely from their participation in these European excursions and in some cases it has helped them to balance their books for the whole season. For this steady development and smooth organisation one has to extend thanks to the European Football Union which is now 22 years old.

In this relatively short space of time association has become one of the best organised sporting communities and it ranks today only second in importance to the world's highest authority. FIFA countries are now members of this "Union des Associations Europeennes de Football" — UEFA for short.

This federation exercises control over 210,481 clubs, 14,392,796 players and 252,147 referees. It is therefore responsible for nearly two thirds of the world's organised football. This astonishing development is further emphasised by the rise in staff necessary to deal with the manifold administrative problems of UEFA. In 1960 the newly appointed and current secretary Hans Bangerter began with just two assistants. Today he supervises sixteen employees, who cope with the office work.

Of course, this expansion is due in the main to the incredible growth of football, specifically at competitive international level in Europe. In 1955 the most fascinating and indeed most lucrative club competition, the European Cup of the Champion Clubs was founded, on an inspiration by Gabriel Hanot, then the editor of the French daily sports paper L'Equipe. The European Union took charge of its organisation and then, in 1960, launched another popular tournament, the Cup Winners' Cup. Eventually, UEFA were also handed control over the Fairs Cup, which until 1970 was run by a committee and has since been renamed the UEFA Cup.

Tournaments

But the executives have also been quick to realise that following the successes of competitive club tournaments the public became less interested in friendly matches, even at full international level. And thus, in 1958, the European Nation's Cup, originally named after Henri Delaunay, the late secretary of the French Football Federation, was created. In 1966 this highly popular competition was officially dubbed the European Football Championship.

In addition, UEFA organise a tournament for national teams at Under-21-years level, for Amateur national teams, as well as an annual Youth Cup tournament for all national member associations. And now the European Union are in the process of taking control over organised women's football. All these events are administered from a tower block situated near Bern (Switzerland), where the Union offices occupy the 13th and 14th floors.

The influence of UEFA on world soccer is of course, thanks to the greatest concentration of first class clubs and players in the world, quite substantial, though not as decisive as most Europeans feel it ought to be. Especially considering that European national associations contribute some 75 per cent of the funds made available to FIFA. The longstanding rivalry with the South American Football Federation, plus the emergence of many countries in the "third world", notably in Africa, who by their numerical strength are beginning to extend their power within FIFA, has recently weakened UEFA's traditionally strong position.

Organisation

Hans Bangerter regards the European Union as a model of modern organisation. He points to the fact that other bodies are trying to copy UEFA. Fifteen to 18 different committees with 80 members deal with various problems of organisation. Financially this multi-nation federation has been gaining in strength thanks again to the business-like approach and negotiating ability of its administrators.

UEFA collects four per cent of gross takings from all European Cup matches. This provides per season roughly £400,000. To this can be added the ten per cent from fees for televised games, other than the finals, for which separate agreements are drawn up. Additional income comes from filmed excerpts shown overseas. Further profits are derived from advertising.

The wintry conditions surprised the Swiss soccer team FC Zürich when they arrived in Finland to play a European Cup match against Turun Palloseura. However, they were not easily scared and won the match by 1-0. Here Swiss player Rutger Petterson climbing up after colliding with a snowdrift behind the touch-line.

Hans Bangerter has signed a contract with an advertising agency which specialises in selling space inside sports grounds. Thus from the two finals in the European Champions Cup and the Cup Winners' Cup, over £100,000 are banked by UEFA. Naturally, the Union insists that all those stadia selected for the finals must be stripped of other advertising matter to make way for their own!

But UEFA also hands out a great deal of money. Funds are provided to cover the deficit incurred by the organisers of the Youth tournament. Any club which can prove hardship through failure in the First Round of a European competition can apply for financial compensation from UEFA. Support is also given to the poorer national associations.

The Union also organises regular courses of instruction for national managers and coaches, as well as other technical personnel, as part of their service to foster and develop the game all over the Continent. It is recognised within the ruling authority that by educating men who teach the arts of soccer, all branches of the game will benefit directly in the future.

Apart from the worries over the effect and influence of television on attendance figures, one of the most pressing problems is the fight against hooliganism and unsportsmanlike behaviour on and off the field. Herr Bangerter has promised new tough measures against offending players and clubs who are held responsible for the excesses of their spectators. Towards the first problem UEFA has pledged total support for its 230 referees. And a look at some recently imposed penalties shows clearly the European Union's determination to stamp out violence, whether by so-called "fans" or footballers.

Several clubs, like Lazio (Rome), Leeds United and Glasgow Rangers, have been banned from the competition for a fixed period of time. Others, including the great Real Madrid, have been ordered to play their home legs on grounds at a considerable distance away, as punishment. Some clubs (Feyenoord), were heavily fined, although the trouble was caused by visiting fans.

Occasional criticism which is levelled at UEFA must be judged in its proper perspective. UEFA cannot and will not interfere in the affairs of the national associations. It can only control its own competitions and can only act in an advisory capacity on most matters affecting the internal problems of each of its member countries.

It would therefore be wrong to expect, or to ascribe too much power and influence to that body, which in the terms of its organisation it clearly does not possess. Nevertheless, UEFA performs a vital service to European football as a whole. It is a service which it has so far carried out very well and which in the long run will be seen as indispensable to the welfare of soccer in Europe.

BELGIUM DEFEAT IRELAND

MUCH HAS changed in Belgium. This is obvious after Belgium's clear 2-0 win over Northern Ireland. Gone is the scared, negative team which was eliminated from the 1974 World Cup competition by Holland. Instead Belgium have a fast, skilled and attacking side and one which overcame an Ireland team after the visitors had impressed in the first 30 minutes.

The Belgian power was in mid-field. Ludo Coeck was again the architect and whereas Holland allowed Best and McIlroy room to work the Belgian players closed down on them quickly.

By virtue of this win Belgium have put themselves in a strong position for the match against Holland in Antwerp on March 26 . . . when the Dutch will be without Johan Cruyff and Johan Neeskens, both with commitments in Spain.

Henri Van der Steen

English hysteria Italians . . . unjust

PERSONAL OPINION

DURING the last few years the Italians have become the most hated footballing nation — in England that is. One can pick up a foreign paper, be it Spanish, Swedish or Bulgarian, and the "Azzuris", whether it be on club or country level, are treated with the same respectful courtesy as every other foe.

Yet, the amount of scorn, hatred, billious attacks thrown on them here must make the neutral observer suspicious of the motives of these malevolent "opinion makers". Are they fired by genuine emotions or perhaps they are merely conditioning the masses to approach the World Cup ties in the right (?) frame of mind.

When "ordinary" people, who have never seen an Italian team 'live' in action keep-on telling me what blackguards they all are, one realizes the enormous influence of the media and its harmful effects on public opinion. I am writing this piece before the Rome confrontation, but whatever happens there and at Wembley next year, the ground is well and truly prepared for the results — if they happen to go against England — to be secondary.

England colleagues Mike Channon (left) and Stan Bowles before the Italy-England match in Rome.

Sore losers

As I have lamented in this column before, England have become sore losers — they are never beaten fairly. Setbacks are due to crooked or inefficient foreign referees, overtough play solely practised by the opposition, the baying (sic) crowd etc. ("The ball was like a pig's bladder," said Bob Paisley when Liverpool lost in Turkey recently. That was to the Press after the match — not before the game to the referee or to the UEFA observer!)

This ridiculous attitude could be laughed-off and labelled as childish sop to the public. But the managers ("we were robbed") and the players ("sick as parrots") genuinely believe that they were unjustly knocked out of this or that competition, consequently, they do not examine their own shortcomings, and try to improve their standard of football.

When a failure is regarded as a triumph (see Englands' defeat against Brazil) and a complete flop (AEK's double over Derby) is described by manager Dave Mackay as "a joke, we could have beaten them as soundly as we beat Finn Harps 12-0", then one becomes desperately worried about the future of British football.

But back to the Italians. Gigi Peronaci, representative of the Italian F.A. in London, is a self-confessed anglophile, who has been working hard for years to establish closer ties between the two countries. He has instigated countless competitions at all levels under the "Anglo-Italian" label, hoping that in time there might be some understanding and appreciation of the temperamental differences between the combatants.

But all his valiant efforts will fall on stoney ground as long as our media regards Gigi's fellow countrymen as the arch-villains of international football. When I recently visited Peronaci's office, he sadly handed me a file, which contained just one week's output in the British Press concerning this thorny subject. I took the photocopies with me to my favourite Italian restaurant in the heart of Soho (well actually nearer to Kings Cross Station), and studied it in the company of the headwaiter, who wishes to remain anonymous, because as he admitted, he is just as prejudiced against English football as let's say Frank McGee is against the Italians.

Me. "Let us look at these press cuttings. Surely there can't be anything objectionable in a quality magazine like World Soccer?"

Luigi. "Well, on the first page they are talking about Christians thrown into the Roman arena for the lions, and an even battier article asks the intelligent question — will it be a bloodbath?"

against
ified!

by LESLIE VERNON

Italy versus England

Luigi. "Good luck to Miller and to Jef Powell of the Mail, who are both coming to their senses. But who is this guy Danny Blanchflower, who writes this load of codswallop. There is a Northern Ireland team manager of the same name — are they related?"

Me. "It is the same person."

Luigi. "Impossible. Doesn't he take his job seriously? No national team manager should criticize other countries as vehemently as he did in the Sunday Express. How would he like it if our boss, Bernardini, would take his team apart. After all, in his first match in Holland, three of his players were cautioned. And Danny should get his facts right. The Moenchengladbach v Inter match was replayed because a bottle thrown from the crowd k.o'd Boninsegna, and he was taken off the pitch on a stretcher. I suppose in Ireland, that is a common occurrence, and they carry on as though nothing has happened."

Same class

Me. "But even a player, Mick Doyle, says that the Italians go over the ball, and dish out Kung Fu chops."

Luigi. "He ought to know! He is in the same class as Norman Hunter, "Chopper" Harris, Peter Storey, Ken Burns and that other well-known gentleman, Trevor Cherry. Mind you, I have a great deal of respect for Don Revie. He was the manager of that universally admired team, Leeds United, with the worst disciplinary record in England."

Me. "Sarcasm is the lowest form of Italian wit. You can't deny that referees have a strange habit of favouring your teams."

Luigi. "Yes, it did happen in Salonika, when Milan played Leeds. But I could mention people like Herr Kreitlein, the lip-reader, who dismissed Rattin against England, the Dienst-Bachramov combination, who awarded a goal at Wembley which was extremely doubtful, Vital Loreaux the Belgian who did his best to beat Poland on behalf of England in the World Cup. If referees can be bribed with money, there are other kinds of pressures more subtle which work just as well for countries who run or used to run such organisations as the FIFA and the UEFA.

Me. "Luigi, you are just hopelessly prejudiced, unfair and biased."

Luigi. "Yes, I was, but merely for the sake of this dialogue. To demonstrate to your readers — if you have any left — how stupid it is to think like that. Someone once said that an educated man looks at all sides of every question without prejudice. Perhaps some of your colleagues are more concerned with circulation than with education . . .

Me. "You must admit that the Italian crowds are pretty bad".

Luigi. "They don't have to be caged in like those marvellous people at Manchester. They do not throw objects at opposing goalkeepers, they do not vandalize trains, scare townspeople off the streets."

Me. "Eric Batty says that 'Italian defenders are the most ruthless in the world, never slow to trip an offender who evades them."

Luigi. "He must mean someone like McFarland who stopped Domarski at Wembley, or Clemence who rushed out of his goal to flatten a Finnish (!) striker."

Me. "Oh, no, he is talking about bad tackles."

Luigi. "Yes, I saw a few lately. Last week I had two nights off. I went to Highbury and to West Ham. First, Sammy Nelson of Arsenal "accidentally" broke Brian Bason's leg, and then kicked Gary Locke in the groin. Mind you, he was shown the yellow card for the second offence. At Upton Park, after eight second's play, Lampard put Thomas on a stretcher. Five minutes later, Keith Robson and Bonds attempted to cripple Stan Bowles. A fine demonstration of the methods of the West Ham academy of football sciences."

Me. "It was only a temporary aberration. I am sure neither Ron Greenwood nor John Lyall condone such tactics. David Miller in the Express gave them a piece of his mind. He said: "The chronic disease of English Soccer was highlighted in last night's farcical cup tie at West Ham. Players from both teams supposedly two of the most skilful in the League — were repeatedly allowed to tackle late, to take the man instead of the ball. The referee accepted almost all the excess as "normal". The game is so riddled with the abuse of talented players that their development is ruinously retarded."

An England training session with manager Don Revie on the ball.

CORSINI SACK

JUST THREE M

News from Italy by Keir Radnedge

SACKED — after only three games in charge. That was the sad fate of former Roma full back Giulio Corsini who only took over UEFA Cup qualifiers Cesena during the summer.

It was his second managerial fiasco inside 12 months. He started last season in charge of Lazio, but lasted only three months. This time his reign was even shorter.

The final nail in the coffin was a 3-0 home defeat by Perugia. That meant that Cesena, already knocked out the UEFA Cup by Magdeburg, were bottom of *Serie A* with no points after three games and having scored only once, with seven goals conceded.

After the Perugia game several hundred of the 14,000 crowd made straight for the offices and waited to chant their displeasure at the directors and players.

"We really touched rock bottom today," said president Dino Manuzzi. "We've got to find the answers straightaway. I take full responsibility for the situation. There will have to be changes in the team. Some of our older players are out of form and may have to make way for younger ones.

"As for Corsini, well I won't be calling a general council and I don't want to dramatise the problems. We must just examine where we have been going wrong and what needs to be done now."

Expressed

Corsini expressed the hope that the directors would make full use of the November reopening of the transfer market — but though he didn't know it when he was speaking, he wouldn't be around then.

Two days later he was fired and Paulo Ferrario, a goal-scoring inside left with Milan in the mid-sixties, was named as caretaker.

Corsini, unlike so many, didn't go out in a blaze of vituperation. All he said was: "If I could have my time over again I wouldn't make the same mistakes. I wouldn't bring in several players who weren't up to the standard of *Serie A* and I wouldn't have tried to change so much of a team which had done well enough last season."

Honesty like that deserves some reward and it's unlikely that Corsini will be out of work for long.

Meanwhile the guessing had begun as to his replacement. Cesena hit one immediate snag when the FIGC informed them that Ferrario didn't have the necessary qualifications to take over on the bench. But then, Ferrario was not expected to be the long-term substitute.

Favourite for the job, as I write, is Cesare Maldini, the 44-year-old who quit Milan two years ago after nearly 20 years there, first as full back, then as an outstanding sweeper, then as scout, finally as first team coach.

It would be good to see Maldini back in *Serie A* and he has already watched Cesena in training at the invitation of Manuzzi.

Maldini was also in the stand at San Siro the following Sunday as Cesena gained their first point in a 1-1 draw with Inter which delighted them as much as it depressed the *Nerazzurri*, whose own manager, Beppe Chiappella, can't be feeling too secure himself.

Careless

Meanwhile, Pippo Marchioro, who handed Cesena his notice during the summer, is still struggling to put together the talented jigsaw at Milan, and he was careless enough to allow himself to be drawn into a slanging match with former Milan winger, Luciano Chiarugi.

The 29-year-old who joined Milan from Fiorentina in 1972 and went to Napoli during the summer, was upset at hearing Marchioro describe him as too unpredictable.

"In my career I have helped win the League, the Cup and the Cup-winners' Cup and I've never had any problems with coaches before," he said. "I got on well with Nero Rocco and Gustavo Giagnoni. Rocco, in fact, didn't want me to leave Milan and fought against my transfer.

"So I don't understand what Marchioro had against me. He should have asked the fans what they thought!"

Ten days later Chiarugi should have had the chance to demonstrate to Marchioro what he meant. Instead injury kept on the sidelines as Milan came to the Fuorigrotta and went down 3-1 in front of a crowd of 74,000 — of which a staggering 62,000 were season ticket holders!

Franco Vincenzi put Milan ahead after four minutes, Giuseppe Massa equalised within 60 seconds and Andrea Orlandi put Napoli ahead in the eighth minute. Remarkable scoring for Calcio! After that it wasn't until ten minutes from time that Beppe Savoldi from a penalty, made it 3-1.

So much for Marchioro's strange prediction that: "If Chiarugi doesn't play, we will have a big advantage."

A week later Milan had sunk to ninth in the table, after a being beaten 3-2 at home by Juventus, after going 2-0 ahead inside 17 minutes through Egidio Calloni and a Marco Tardelli own goal.

Juventus hit back with all the skill, strength and panache they had demonstrated a few days before in turning over Manchester United 3-0 in the UEFA Cup. Roberto Bettega made it 2-1 after 21 minutes, Romeo Benetti equalised against his old club ten minutes after half-time and Bettega snatched a dramatic winner ten minutes from the end.

It had been the finest league match for a long time and even the Milan fans couldn't begrudge victory to Juventus, coached by their old favourite, Giovanni Trapattoni — unlike the Catanzaro *tifosi* the week before in Turin, who laid waste to a section of the Stadio Communale after Juve's easy 3-0 win.

But while Juventus, by beating Milan, made it five wins out of five, they were still only second in the table to neighbours and champions Torino, who also had gone nap and had a better goal difference — 10-1 compared with 11-4.

Torino that day beat Inter 1-0 with a late Paolino Pulici penalty, which provided a little consolation for their humiliation in Düsseldorf the previous Wednesday when three players — Vittorio Caporale, Renato Zaccarelli and Luciano Castellini — were sent off in the return Champions' Cup tie with Borussia Moenchengladbach.

Add to this the ankle injury suffered several weeks before by young midfielder Eraldo Pecci, the worries about assistant coach Giorgio Ferrini — still in a coma after his brain haemorrhage — and you'll understand that Torino were doing well to stay top of the table in a league where psychology and morale count for so much.

Cesena chose this Sunday to take their

TURKISH DELIGHT

ENGLISH soccer has a great reputation in Turkey. The English are regarded as the inventors of soccer and the saying "England is the mother of soccer" is common in Turkey. For a Turkish team to win a match against a side from England is considered a dream . . . an almost impossible task (from Hasan Cemali).

When Liverpool came to Turkey to play against Trabzonspor in the European Cup nobody here thought that the Black Sea club stood a chance. But their shock 1-0 victory was a great fillip for the game in Turkey and a personal success for Trabzonspor trainer Suat Ozyazici.

Though Trabzonspor lost the second leg at Liverpool – and went out of the competition – their win at home will long be remembered.

ED AFTER ATCHES

second point, in a 0-0 draw at home with Bologna. Gustavo Giagnoni has failed to provide any spark as yet and Bologna are now just one point clear of Cesena, the young club — they were only founded in 1940 — who first reached *Serie A* only three years ago.

And it was in Torino's earlier 3-0 away win over Bologna that Pecci broke his ankle in an incident with Rosario Rampanti.

"He meant to foul me," said Pecci later in hospital. "I'm sure he didn't intend anything like this to happen. But I don't need to see the television slow motion re-runs to know he didn't have much chance of playing the ball.

"The last time I was in hospital was for an operation on my right knee during the summer. I didn't miss out on anything then. Now look as the mess I'm in. No World Cup, or Champions' Cup, and then there's the league going on . . ."

Rampanti, on the other hand, while regretting Pecci's injury, would admit to nothing else.

"That tackle was like a thousand others," he said. "So this happened to be one in a thousand which left its mark, but I don't think I deserved some of the comments made — particularly by Gigi Radice (Torino's coach) — that I'm just there to knock people over. That's not true.

"Because Pecci is a big star people have got this out of proportion."

Rampanti's coach, Giagnoni, was thinking ahead when he said: "I know Gigi was upset at what happened, but he shouldn't have insulted as he did, nor should Pecci. Look — if Torino lose to Borussia the fans will blame it on the absence of Pecci. Then, when we come to play Torino in Turin later this season there will be all sorts of threats to Rampanti. Let's get it settled once and for all — he's done nothing wrong."

Pecci, of course, wasn't the only man to miss the November 17 World Cup tie with England in Rome because of injury. Roma full back Francesco Rocca had to go into hospital for a cartilage operation. Also ruled out were Fiorentina full back Moreno Roggi — Kurt Hamrin is his father-in-law — Bologna stopper Mario Bellugi and Juventus' Francesco Morini. The Juve defender strained a hamstring in the second leg with Manchester United.

Meanwhile there were different problems for another member of Enzo Bearzot's squad, Giancarlo Antognoni.

He's been called the new Golden Boy, and he's inspired as much controversy as Gianni Rivera used to. His chances of continuing his international career in peace were not improved when it turned out that Bearzot and "overlord" Fulvio Bernardini were at odds over whether to include Antognoni in their plans.

The players couldn't understand it all.

"Why should I cause so much fuss?" he asked. "I thought I had a good game against Luxembourg. We won 4-1 after all. Yet they criticise me on television, on radio and in some newspapers. I wouldn't like to say there is a campaign against me. I'm not big-headed enough to think I'm worth people going to such extremes. But I don't understand it."

Antognoni's former Fiorentina team-mate, Claudio Merlo, was not helping the cause of his new club, Inter, when he was sent off — along with Gianfranco Zigoni — in Inter's 1-0 away defeat by Verona.

The two went off together after 35 minutes for a minor scrap, and Inter were further upset by their latest failure, particularly after twice hitting the bar and once the post.

How they could do with the steadying influence of their cast-off Tarcisco Burgnich, who continues to push back the age barriers with Napoli. He's 37 now and even managed to get his name on the score sheet recently though, as you might have guessed, it was an own goal in Napoli's 2-2 draw at Foggia.

Another veteran — this time from the pre-war era — has been in the news. He's Luisito Monti, Italy's centre half in the 1934 World Cup-winning team. Now living back near his native Buenos Aires, he's fallen on hard times and after he suffered a recent heart attack, his wife had to appeal to the Italian authorities and his old club, Juventus, for help with medical fees.

Monti, of course, was involved in one of earliest meetings between England and Italy — Highbury in 1934, the famous 'battle' which England won 3-2 and in which Monti suffered a broken toe and Eddie Hapgood a broken nose.

Bernard Joy

AFTER GEOFFREY GREEN, Bernard Joy. The old order changeth. Let me at once declare an interest; when I was a schoolboy and an impassioned Arsenal supporter, Bernard Joy was my favourite player, Arsenal's huge, fair haired, uncompromising centre-half, an international; and an amateur. Dreams could be dreamed, even for a prep school boy. One could actually play for Arsenal . . . as an amateur! Joy both looked and played the part. He nothing common did not mean. He was brave and he was — oh, how long ago it seems! — a sportsman.

In 1947, when Arsenal were struggling to hang on in the First Division, and he was playing left-back, Tom Whittaker, then the assistant manager, fulfilled a promise to tell him when he thought he was over the top. Bernard retired, and joined *The Star* as football correspondent, passing in time to the *Evening Standard*, a diligent, thorough, authoritative figure whose judicious articles will be badly missed.

I could go on about him at some length; about the cruel, snobbish way this son of a policeman, LSE student and former schoolmaster was treated by the pre-war Corinthians; of how he turned into an attacking centre-half against Poland in the 1936 Olympic tournament, of how L. V. Manning hailed him then dismissed him as an England player ("Joy has had his match") in the war. May good luck go with him in what promises to be a most active retirement.

Brian Glanville

Greek dismay

FAILURE TO beat Hungary at home in a World Cup qualifying match and a three clear goals defeat in Kavala against Austria has tended to overshadow what was promising to be a good season for Greece.

Certainly prospects in the domestic championship have been looking interesting with Olympiakos unbeaten after five matches, the only 100 per cent side in the League. At this stage only PAOK Salonika the current champions, Panathinaikos and Iannina are undefeated. AEK Athens the favourites for the title lost their unbeaten tag the previous week in going down 3-1 away to Pierikos, though this scalp has been the Katerini club's only success.

However AEK fared far better in their UEFA Cup exploits. In the opening round they established a 2-0 lead at home over Moscow Dynamo thanks to goals by Nikoloudis and Papaioannou. In Russia they were trailing by two goals after 52 minutes but held on to force extra time and a penalty by Tassos after 120 minutes in extra time enabled them to sneak in front on the tie.

In the second round they did even better taking another two clear goals lead over Derby County with two goals from former Eintracht Frankfurt striker Walter Wagner and then managing to win 3-2 in Derby in the second leg. Czech-born manager Frantisek Fadrhonc the former Dutch World Cup technical director was a happy man after it.

Even happier as far as the League race is concerned is Les Shannon who has taken over Olympiakos this season. Shannon has had a good record in Greek football but also knows only too well the pitfalls that it can present. But for the moment all is going along with a swing.

Olympiakos had for them a bad season in 1975-76 finishing only third in the table, after three successive titles. AEK who last won the League in 1971 could still give them a run for their money, however.

THE STATE OF THE NATION

Eric Batty presents the first of a two-part special on HUNGARY

Blac Engl not

NOVEMBER 25, 1953 was a great day for me, one I shall always remember with the greatest of pleasure — but it was a black day for England. And, as it turned out, it was to have a far reaching effect on the English game, ultimately leading the British away from real football and leading finally to the development of the game we now play, to what I have often referred to as 'fight-ball'.

Twenty three years ago the Hungarians came to London. To Wembley to be precise and they came unknown and unsung. Just another bunch of foreigners here to be slaughtered.

England still had a good team in those days. Alf Ramsey and Bill Eckersley at full back. A half back line of Billy Wright, Harry Johnston (a fine, skilful player at centre half) and Jimmy Dickinson; and in attack . . . Stan Matthews, Ernie Taylor and Stan Mortensen.

Admittedly, the left wing pair were a bit below par, the relatively unknown Jackie Sewell and left winger George Robb. They also had Gil Merrick in goal who I never really thought of as England class. But still it was a good side with a lot of talent, real skill.

Unknown

But the Hungarians were completely unknown. Winners of the Olympic Games soccer series in 1952 but still unknown to the majority of the 100,000 at Wembley. The national press had seen them, as had England manager Walter Winterbottom. They had all been to Budapest shortly before the Wembley game to see Sweden draw 2-2.

The national press told us they were just another continental team. W.W. was more cautious, even sounding a warning note, but that passed almost unnoticed. Until that day, with English football still suffering from the effects of the last war, though they didn't realise it at the time, it had already become clear that many of the foreign club teams we had seen in England, particularly during the 'Festival of Britain' fortnight in May, 1951, really could play football. But unfortunately, it

SIPOS — a famous Hungarian name from the past.

was also true that in the main, the gifted foreigners couldn't shoot. I well remember friends telling me . . . "O.K. *they* can play skilful pattern-weaving football but they can't score goals."

Against this background, you can imagine my surprise when they came out, the Hungarians in their now famous cherry coloured shirts. To this day I still remember being shaken at their pre-match kick about. THEY WERE SHOOTING FROM OUTSIDE THE PENALTY AREA . . . and shooting with real power and accuracy. I thought to myself right away: "if this lot can play, then England are in real trouble."

So it turned out.

In the first minute, centre forward Nandor Hidegkuti sold Harry Johnson a beautiful dummy, looked up and whacked a tremendous cross shot high into the net past Merrick's right hand — from outside the box!

England soon equalised but then came three quick goals in succession for Hungary, and what football they played! It wasn't what they did to England but more the way they did it. Hidegkuti got the second and Ferenc Puskas the third and almost in a twinkling, Hungary led 4-1.

The goal from Puskas was a real gem. One of the finest goals I've ever seen. Right winger Budai got free and almost reached the by-line. He squared the ball on the floor and there, just beyond the near post, Puskas met the ball with the inside of his left foot. Harry Johnson was close behind, coming from Puskas' left . . . and then it happened. Having stopped the ball with the inside of his left foot, Puskas feinted to move right (away from goal), then drew the ball back with the sole of his boot and in one movement pushed it forward again as Johnson rushed past. Puskas' left foot jerked back and . . . there it was in the roof of the net. Gil Merrick couldn't have seen it.

Draw-back

This trick became universally known as Puskas' draw-back feint. Later I saw it again and again on film and tried it myself as did everyone else I knew. It was magnificent, fantastic, out of this world.

Make no mistake, England were still playing well. Matthews troubled the Hungarian defence, well supplied with the ball by little Ernie Taylor. And Stan Mortenson was also causing problems with his close control at high speed in the centre. But all this was overlooked by the crowd and critics for the Hungarians simply tore England's defence apart time and time again.

The quality of the Hungarian football was so good that it seemed as if each player had developed some telepathic understanding with his colleagues. And what finishing power. Shots rained at Merrick's goal, many of them from outside the penalty area. The Hungarians really could shoot as well as play.

Just in case readers may think I am over-stating the case, let me quote a piece from a match report in the official FA Year Book for 1954-55 . . .

It is but sparse compensation to be able to reflect that England lost her unbeaten home record to a team that played with brilliance, flair and zest; and it is but painful irony to note that the Hungarians largely owed their victory to their mastering of the 'English Style' – interchanging forwards, a mingling of short and long passes, the same defensive

ck day for land...but for football!

tactics, but all performed with almost geometrical accuracy and ball control amounting to elegance. Apart from all this they overcame the traditional Continental weakness at finishing and shot four of their six goals from outside the penalty area.

The following day the English press were in raptures about the Hungarian display. The *Daily Mail*, then broadsheet, devoted the whole of their front page to a picture of an um, something like the um that holds the cricket 'ashes'. Under the um, which was about two feet high they printed words to the effect that . . . 'English football was buried yesterday at Wembley."

Ferenc Puskas became an English hero overnight. But Hidegkuti, Kocsis, Bozsik and Grosics were also on everyones tongues. The public were not hurt or outraged but genuinely impressed and the inquests went on for weeks after.

One of the more fantastic explanations put forward was published a little later in the *Daily Express*. They got a 'scoop', allegedly from someone on the inside in the Hungarian camp. According to this article, the Hungarians had marked out the football pitch like a draught board into small squares, each with a number. The Hungarians it was said, played to pre-set moves with every player remembering where the ball would go from one particular square, and from there to another numbered square. They were supposed to have played by numbers.

Quality

Of course it was a good story, but there was nothing in it at all except imagination. The FA Year Book gave the true picture: the Hungarians had produced really top quality football and allied it to finishing power. England's days as top dog were over.

This 6-3 Wembley win by the Hungarians had three (at least) far reaching effects. The first was on me. I had already come to the view that the 'foreigners' were now playing my kind of football, the kind of football that I saw from English and Scottish players when I was a youngster.

But at that time I was still playing, a centre half or left back, and being brought up 'English' I never hesitated to foul anyone who looked like scoring. Nothing nasty in those days: holding shorts or shirt, little pushes in the back just as an opponent was about to jump for a high ball, and meticulously 'tripping' anyone that went by me with the ball.

My philosophy until that day had been: the man can go by me, or the ball can go by me, but the ball and the man can never go by me. That was typically English, the way I had been brought up to play.

But after that Wembley game I rebelled against the system. Having seen how football could be played, I never again deliberately fouled anyone. Such was the impact of the Hungarians on me.

The FA took a different view. In those days Walter Winterbottom was the England team manager, but he had his team chosen for him by the FA selection committee. When it came to the end of season tour to Yugoslavia and Hungary, W.W. was given a much changed, younger, fitter, faster team. Clearly the FA accepted the newspapers view that the Hungarians could be upset and thrown out of their stride if the English 'got stuck in.''.

Against Yugoslavia England lost 1-0 . . . and in Budapest they crashed by 7-1 and that was the limit. That was too much.

Now came the third and most important effect. Almost to a man, the English club managers decided that we could never, never play football like the Hungarians. From now on we must emphasise the traditional British qualities: speed, strength, stamina, ability in the air, will to win and fighting spirit. It all developed slowly, step by step, but by degrees we took our own path, leaving the rest of the world trying to play real football, while we set out on a path that led us to where we are now . . . playing the game I call fight-ball.

The English consciously made the decision not to go for skill and technique.

There were to my knowledge only two major exceptions. One was Walter Winterbottom, who could do little as England manager with his hands tied behind his back, but did do a lot in his other role as Director of coaching. W.W. tried to keep real football going by encouraging his lieutenants to preach the gospel of good football . . . and the only one to emerge with the courage and determination to go on trying was Ron Greenwood.

Lean years

Through all the lean years, Greenwood and West Ham continued to 'try' to play real football, the game we used to play, but which we had given up, thrown away, left for the foreigners to play.

West Ham and Greenwood won many admirers, though they had lean spells as well as good times. Their problem was that it is not good enough to TRY TO PLAY GOOD FOOTBALL. Against teams that got stuck in you either had to be really outstanding in terms of skill and collective technique or you were crushed.

When West Ham lacked the players of real quality that they needed, they had hard times. But they kept the flag of football flying in England.

Now the English game has reached a point where we have the fastest league competition in the world. In fact it is too fast. Real football involves the changing of rhythm, slow, slow too set things up. Then, when the opening has been created, suddenly speed it up with a long pass and race away at top speed.

Fast pace

This is how the Hungarians played, this is how Ajax played when they were at their peak. It is how Brazil played in 1958 and 1970 when they won the World Cup. It is real football.

The English game is typified for me by a game I saw on TV recently, involving Ipswich Town. The game was played at such a fast pace that at first I really thought that the BBC had deliberately speeded up the cameras to make it more exciting. But it slowly became clear that it really was being played flat out. This is the problem for English football. We now play at only one speed . . . top speed for 90 minutes.

Tackle, pass, tackle; tackle, pass, cross — and fight for the high ball in the goalmouth. All at top speed. No one has time to think or look. No one is allowed to dwell on the ball and try to slow things down. No wonder we have failed to produce a new Matthews, another Finney, a player to equal Mannion or Carter. We never will while we insist on football in top gear all the time.

You might well like English football. Admittedly it is fast and exciting, or rather it can be at its best.

But it isn't real football. It is fight-ball. And it is the direct result of what happened that November day at Wembley, twenty three years ago.

● *Continued next month*

REVIVAL BY DUKLA PRAHA...

ALTHOUGH DUKLA PRAHA are far from being the outstanding team they were in the early 1960's they are now looking as if they are well on the way to taking over as top dogs from Slovan Bratislava.

In a table topping clash leaders Dukla visited second placed Internacional Slovnaft Bratislava and after trailing 2-0 at one stage hit back through Frantisek Stambachr and finally got a late equaliser from full back Ludek Macela to gain a vital 2-2 draw.

Dukla followed that with a clear cut 4-0 win at home to Trencin though only 1,508 cash customers paid to see it, and international centre forward Zdenek Nehoda missed several chances before he got the final goal. The other scorers were Stanislav Pelc (a penalty), Stambachr and Miroslav Gajdusek.

Dukla then visited Teplice who were undefeated at home, but after a goal-less first half, Nehoda and Gajdusek each took a goal to give Dukla a surprise 2-0 win. Back in Prague at Juliska, 7,511 paid (on top of their season ticket holders) for the visit of neighbouring Bohemians who pushed their top scorer Antonin Panenka up to centre forward. Bohemians are way below the side they were two years ago and were soundly beaten by 2-0 though it wasn't until the 72nd minute that inside right Oldrich Rott opened the scoring. Right winger Ladislav Vizek scored the clincher, two minutes from time to leave Dukla clear leaders.

In the battle of the newly promoted teams there was a real surprise. Sparta, once mighty, could only attract slightly less than 4,000 to the gate for the visit of Frydek-Mistek . . . which is not really surprising. But Sparta had one of their many off days and crashed at home 1-0 to a goal from Jiri Mrazek. This win seemed to Frysek a world of good for they followed that with a goal-less draw against fellows in distress Spartak Trnava . . . Frydek missing a penalty . . . and then drew 0-0 away to VSS Kosice. Back home they pulled in a crowd of 10,276 (almost the best of the day) for the visit of champions Banik Ostrava . . . and won 2-1!

Spartak Trnava really are in trouble, sharing the relegation place with Slovak neighbours VSS Kosice who have international star Jaroslav Pollak in midfield with Dusan Gallis, the man whose header put England out of the European championship. Trnava took two vital points in a 1-0 win over Lokomotive Kosice and then after drawing 0-0 away to Frydek, entertained Slovan Bratislava in what would have been the match of the day two or three years ago.

As it was they pulled in the best crowd of the round, just over 8,000, and Trnava won 2-0 thanks to inspired displays by their veterans Karol Dobias (now playing *libero* and Ladislav Kuna who is back in midfield . . . who both scored goals.

Top of the scorers is Antonin Panenka of Bohemians who shares top mark with Brno's international Karol Kroupa, each with seven goals. Then comes Slavia Prague's Robert Seggmuller with six . . . three of them hit in the 5-2 away win over Trencin . . . while the Inter Bratislava, attacking *libero* Ladislav Jurkemik has scored five goals . . . along with four other players. As a matter of interest, it is worth noting that international centre forwards Zdenek Nehoda (Dukla Praha) and Dusan Gallis have each scored only three league goals in 11 games.

Zeiss Jena struggle

FC CARL ZEISS JENA continue to flounder but at least they beat 1st FC Magdeburg by a resounding five goals to three with a largely rebuilt team. Centre forward Hartmut Molata (only 20) is looking good while Eberhard Vogel who came on as a substitute got one of the goals. Joachim Streich (2) and Jurgen Sparwasser were the Magdeburg scorers.

Zeiss then went to Berlin where newly promoted 1st FC Union beat them 2-1 with a headed goal by Union *libero* Fritz Bohla just four minutes from time but seemed to perk up for the visit of Dynamo Berlin who were second in the table at the time. Rudiger Schnuphase and Molata who came on as a sub in the 67th minute for Peter Ducke got a goal apiece.

In the second round of the DFV Pokal Molata helped himself to his first senior hat trick away to Division II Motor Nordhausen when Zeiss won 6-1. All the big guns survived except Wismut Aue and their neighbours FC Karl Marx Stadt who went out to Motor Werdau and Motor Suhl respectively while Dynamo Dresden made hard work of winning away to TSG Groditz.

Dynamo trailed twice, with Dieter Riedl getting the second equaliser against his old club before reserve striker Rainer Sachse got his second goal of the day to give Dynamo a 3-2 win only four minutes from time.

Winner

In the League, Dynamo Dresden continued their winning way, beating Union Berlin 3-2 before a 26,000 crowd. Hans-Jurgen Kreische scored twice in the first half hour but Union fought back to 2-2 and Hartmut Schade got the winner in the 70th minute. Then followed a difficult 0-0 draw away to Rot Weiss Erfurt before they gave FC Hansa Rostock a good seeing to, still without their injured internationals, Libero (and captain Hans-Jurgen Dorner) and Gerd Weber. 27,000 saw them in Erfurt and 28,000 saw Hansa score first, for Riedel to equalise, then Hansa again led 2-1 before Schade levelled matters.

But in the second half Rainer Sachse and Peter Kotte each scored twice to give Dynamo a 6-2 win. Then after the mid-week friendly against Bulgaria in which the Dresden club provided six men, their 20 league game run without a defeat came to an end. Another good crowd (20,000) paid to see their visit to Leipzig where Lokomotive are just beginning to play their way out of a bad spell.

Wolfram Lowe had his best game of the season so far and with Henning Frenzel at his best, Lowe scored in the first minute. Peter Kotte got one back for Dresden but Lowe early in the second half and a penalty by Rainer Lisiewicz gave Lokomotive a much needed 3-1 win, that still left Dynamo two points clear of Berlin FC Dynamo at the top.

The visit to Bulgaria was a huge success, with the DDR laying a bogy in front of a sparse crowd of 25,000 at Sliven. In their nine previous encounters, East Germany had won only once, drawn four times and lost four against Bulgaria for a goals tally of seven for and 13 against.

Two up at the break, the visitors were seldom in difficulty once they had weathered the opening minutes when Christo Bonev inspired an all-out assault on their goal. Jurgen Croy, 30 years old and earning his record 74th caps, kept a clean sheet and it was a personal triumph too for Magdeburg striker Joachim Streich who scored twice. Gert Heidler and Hartmut Schade were the other scorers. This boosted Streich's personal tally to 25 goals in his 48 internationals.

Looking at Soccer with Brian Glanville

Criticism of FIFA justified

UNFAIR ON Italy, unfair on Argentina. This is the criticism one can justly make of FIFA and their recent decisions: or the lack of them. The appointment of Abraham Klein to the vital match against England in Rome in November two months and more beforehand made him a target for potential corruptors, and allowed the mischievous free play for their fantasies. The refusal of Joao Havelange to consider moving the World Cup from Argentina meant that the Argentinians continued their building operations in good faith, with the substantial possibility that they would eventually be left with egg on their faces.

That Havelange has always discounted the possibility of the World Cup being shifted to his native Brazil is not the selfless attitude it may appear. Indeed, however much one may admire Havelange, it would be difficult to isolate selflessness as one of his more evident qualities. No; the truth is that he still resents his exclusion from the pinnacles of the CBD, the Brazilian Sports Confederation, after he had assumed the Presidency of FIFA. Admiral Nunes, who took his place, made it clear that he was glad to see the back of him, as he has subsequently made it clear that Brazil would be ready and able to take on the World Cup.

Havelange has denied, *inter alia*, that Holland have any intention of pulling out of the World Cup, should they qualify, but the truth is that there have been considerable rumblings in the Low Countries. Maître Louis Wouters, the wealthy lawyer who leads the Belgian Football Federation, has been busily lobbying in the European Union, and since there is no sign that the wave of terrorist and counter-terrorist activities in Argentina will come to an end in the foreseeable future, a revolt by the European countries against going there is always a possibility; the more so as UEFA has long made it clear that it resents the way it has been over-reached by the South Americans and their allies.

Signor Artemio Franchi, the Florentine who is President of UEFA, has said on various occasions that UEFA provides most of the money and most of the players in FIFA, yet has not remotely a voice commensurate with its strength and size. The equivalent of universal suffrage, allowing each country, however big or small, one vote allowed Havelange to get himself elected by wooing the Afro-Asian vote.

The Africans are pretty cross with him at the moment, as they publicly made clear some months ago at a congress in Addis Ababa; they accuse him of failing to deliver what he promised. Franchi would certainly like that Presidency, and although I have reservations about his stewardship in the years at UEFA, not least over the chicanery of the Italian clubs and the Italian national team in various competitions, I appreciate that his hands were largely tied, and that he would at bottom like to run an honest ship honestly.

The possibility of *schism* in FIFA cannot be ruled out, and it might well come to a head over the World Cup venue. In 1930, the South Americans, Uruguay the hosts in particular, were incensed by the refusal of most of the major European countries to make the three week voyage Westwards. As a result, Uruguay didn't appear in another World Cup for twenty years. We shall see.

Meanwhile how sad it is that the perversity of the Football League should have prevented Northern Ireland from putting out a full team against Belgium in the World Cup match of November 10. Were it not for the generosity of Manchester United, things would have been worse still.

True, the Football League was more generous than it had ever been before in virtually erasing its First Division programme for the Saturday before England's matches against Finland and Italy, not to mention those played by other home countries, but to have rearranged another couple of matches when the Irish couldn't talk the Belgians out of playing on November 10, a national holiday, would have caused no great hardship. Instead, we had the displeasing spectacle of Mr Alan Hardaker standing on his dignity, and by his, or the Football League's, rights. A brighter image tarnished.

Lucky

Spain, very lucky even according to some of their own critics to get the better of Yugoslavia with a penalty kick, continue to pay remarkable salaries to their managers and players; though Cruyff's 48,000 pesetas — some £400,000 a year — still more than five times as much as is earned by his manager, Miljan Miljanic. The Yugoslav coach gets another million if he wins the League, the same if he wins the Cup, two million pesetas for the European Cup.

Rinus Michels returned to Barcelona, at the behest of Johan Cruyff, as we know, for exactly a sixth of what Cruyff himself is earning; that is for eight million pesetas a year; still very substantial money indeed. His bonuses would be two million for winning the League, a million for the Spanish Cup, a million and a half for the UEFA Cup. That ruthless Uruguayan and Real Madrid centre-half of the 1950s, the blond Santamaria, is paid seven million pesetas a year; if he manages to qualify Espanol of Barcelona for the UEFA Cup next season, he will pocket another million. The lowest basic salary, a "mere" one and a half million pesetas, goes to Carmelo of the untrumpeted Celta Vigo club; he gets in addition a bonus of 20,000 pesetas for victories both at home and away.

Kevin Keegan's anxiety to go to play for Real Madrid, or perhaps Barcelona, is thus quite easy to comprehend in monetary terms, but somewhat less so if one accepts, as I tend to do, that it is chiefly a spirit of adventure which has lured him.

The Spaniards themselves have been laughing at a report that Henning Hensen, Real's new striker from Denmark via Munchengladbach, who made a poor and sterile start, should apparently have wanted to leave the *Bundesliga* because it was too hard. Spanish football, they estimate, is considerably harder. I wonder how much genuine enjoyment Keegan would derive from the games, as opposed to the ambience?

Finally, a word on tactics; or the peculiar disparity in the approach of certain English managers towards them. In last October's first round UEFA Cup matches, both Derby County, in Athens, and Queens Park Rangers, in Bratislava, were away from home. Derby were cravenly defensive and lost. Rangers were boldly aggressive and drew.

Afterwards Mr Dave Mackay, the manager of Derby, said that although he certainly believed in attacking football away from home in the Football League, it was regrettably essential to play tightly in defence in away European legs. Why? I hope he read, marked, learned and inwardly digested the QPR result and its significance. But then it was Mr Mackay who, in a burst of engaging honesty, gave it as his opinion that a manager's chief function was to exercise his skills in the transfer market.

PAUL GARDNER reports from New York

The night Calcio Sto

YEARS AND years and years ago I saw a Danny Kaye film where he's travelling on a bus and he suddenly becomes hysterical when they tell him the bus is going to Brooklyn. He leaps up and shrieks: "But I don't want to go to Brooklyn, I don't *want* to go to Brooklyn!" The bus driver just keeps going and snarls out of the corner of his mouth: "Buddy, none of us *wants* to go to Brooklyn, but we all gotta go sometime."

I think of that everytime I go there, which is not too often. . . . I have to have a special reason, and I found one recently, unique I should think. At Brooklyn College they were staging a recreation of the medieval Italian game of *calcio storico*, over 100 participants, all the costumes, the drums, the banners, all brought in from Italy, the real thing. . . . I checked up on it in a book, they used to play in Florence in the seventeenth century, there was a picture of it, a *piazza* full of men in wide-brimmed hats and pantaloons and swinging swords, dozens of them, all over the place.

So I went to Brooklyn, by subway not bus, and I found the college and next to it the field with the lights blazing and on the ground the hard smooth look of artificial turf. . . . That must be a first, they never played *calcio* on plastic grass in Florence. . . . As I walk into the enclosure, the first thing I see is six or eight young men in blue overalls, written on their backs it says "Brooklyn College Emergency Medical Squad". Are they kidding? For an exhibition?

The field is 80 yards long and about 50 wide. At each end, spanning the complete 50 yards, a sort of fence about four feet high, with a net stretching another two feet or so above it: to score you have to get the ball over the fence and into the net. With a goal that big there should be plenty of scoring. One of the coaches, he's all done up in a track suit, he looks like a genuine coach, tells me there are 27 players on each team. Then he has to go off and instruct the linesman (recruited college students, I gather) as to what they're supposed to do.

The speeches have started. Someone says the game dates back to before Caesar's time. Someone else insists on calling it calico instead of *calcio*. Then at 8.30 we get a marvellous display of flag twirling and throwing by 12 men in bright coloured costumes. Ten minutes of that, then a fanfare from somewhere off the field, over there in the darkness, followed by some deep, gutty thumps on drums. An exciting noise, immediately marred by the shriek of a police-car siren. On comes the parade at the far side of the field, slow-paced, majestic. Helmeted guys with long swords, guards with flags, a man carrying a ball, it certainly looks like a soccer ball. Two very flamboyantly clothed gentlemen, the referees. Then the teams, the Blues and the Whites, over 60 players, pretty hefty looking specimens some of them. Now the drummers, 17 of them, plus 14 trumpeters. Then some more military looking types with steel helmets. . . . Six dashing swashbucklers gallop past on horseback. The last horse leaves a carefully timed trail of manure as it passes the VIP stand. . . . He gets a special cheer. Five men dragging a little toy cannon, it looks like a toy, I mean, I can't see anyone laying siege to a castle with that. Lastly, a lovely docile cow with a glistening tapestry draped over it trots past.

Then a proclamation, a sort of Oyez! in Italian, followed by a drum roll and a fanfare and an almighty bang! from the cannon. . . . Some toy, that! The player are running all over the field warming up. They really look like athletes these guys, stretching and sprinting and jumping. The teams, says the PA voice, will of course play with 7-7-9 formation, plus the usual four goalkeepers. Maybe it won't be so easy to score after all.

One of the refs throws the ball high into the air, and away we go. Quite hectic, this, they look as though they mean business. They're all wearing rather medieval-looking floppy, striped knickers (though I did spot a zip-fastener on one of them), teeshirts and sneakers. The game is stopped, there seems to be a fight. Well, the exhibition has to be realistic. They're off again, then something else is happening on the other side of the field, play has stopped again, little fights breaking out all over. The crowd, there must be over 1000 here by now, is roaring with delight, this was just the way it must have been in Florence all those centuries ago.

A player with a ripped tee-shirt staggers off the field, the referee is whistling like mad. The action is right in front of me now. I don't know, but that looked a damned realistic punch someone just threw. Everyone's joining in now. Can this be staged? Lots of shouting among the players, then they're off again. This is mostly rugby, I haven't seen a kick yet, though the ball is being thrown forward.

No throws at the goal yet. After 12 minutes there seems to be total chaos on the other side of the field, players pushing and yelling and, surely, fighting. The coaches and the trainers are all on the field now, none of them seems to be smiling much. Yes, some of the VIPs are walking on to the field, one of them trips gracefully over the restraining rope as he

they brought rico to Brooklyn

goes. Looks like an appeal for order. A failure, they come off, still no resumption of play, we've been waiting nearly nine minutes now.

Then a sudden sharp voice cuts the cold night air. Somebody in authority evidently, bawling into the PA, telling the players, in Italian, that if the brawling doesn't stop *pronto*, then *"lo spettacolo verra cessato immediatemente"*. That seems to do it, he must be the guy who pays the checks, within a minute play has restarted. The referee's whistle blasts are hard and long now. Even so, there's still some fighting going on.

After thirty minutes of quite convincing carnage there is no score, but the Whites are coming close. Then they score. . . . Great exuberance, another blast from the toy cannon as the teams change ends. White scores twice more, Blue reduced to throwing long balls now. I still haven't seen many kicks. The cannon signals the end of the game. "Final score" — begins the PA voice . . . " — "three dead and 75 wounded" finishes a boy walking past me.

Well, I have to go down to see what this was all about. Down on the field the first words I hear are: "I think we'll have to get this guy to the hospital". It's one of the Emergency Medical Squad talking, he's looking at one of the Blues who's stretched out along a bench, an ice pack on a very swollen knee, face crunched up with pain. A bit further on I step over a torn tee-shirt, spotted with blood, lying on the plastic grass. Another Blue player is sitting down here, also holding an ice-pack to his knee. And here comes a White player, holding an ice-pack over his eye, all puffed and purple. . . . I ask one of the players "Why so rough?" He looks through me, mutters *"Porca miseria!"* and wanders off. I repeat the question to a man wearing an official's tag and a stunned sort of grin. . . . "Ahem, well, ahem, they were supposed to play on Sunday in Central Park, but it was rained out and, ahem, well, I think they were a littled keyed up, ahem".

On the subway going home, I'm thinking of all that pageantry and pomp they used to have in the middle ages. The colour, the flags, the horses, the noise, actually we could do with some of that today, a bit of drama and showmanship. A pre-game parade would be fun, though it would have to be a bit quicker than this one, which took six minutes to circle the field. . . . And I'm left with the certain idea that *calcio storico*, if that's what I've been watching, is much more rugby than soccer.

Back home, I turn on TV for the late show. . . . The screen is full of colourful figures in pantaloons and wide-brimmed hats and swinging swords. . . . They're rushing all over a courtyard, dragging a protesting figure with them . . . lo and behold, it's Danny Kaye, who didn't want to go to Brooklyn. . . . He's a Court Jester now but from his dress, well, he could be a *calcio* player.

News from Switzerland ... by ARTHUR ROTMIL

World Cup hopes gone

SWITZERLAND'S DREAM of qualifying for the World Cup finals for the first time since 1966 was rudely shattered after just two matches in their preliminary group. Having lost to Norway in Oslo by 0-1, the Helvetians slumped at home to chief rivals Sweden by 1-2. This setback has virtually eliminated their national team — unless of course a miracle happens, namely for these results to be reversed in the return games.

Whilst the defeat in Norway was put down to various causes, ranging from the wrong mental attitude of the players to bad luck, the disaster in Basel against Sweden was put partly on the shoulders of two defenders whose tragic error presented the Swedes with the winning goal and partly on the figure of Turkish referee Ok, who according to some experts should never have allowed that goal to stand.

What really happened is at once so sad and so grotesque that the Swiss can be forgiven for believing that the fates have conspired against them. With the score at 1-1 and the match delicately balanced, the Swedes counter-attacked and a shot from Torstensson was parried by goalkeeper Burgener.

The ball dropped inches from the line where the Swiss midfielder Conz had plenty of time to kick it clear. But he hesitated, leaving it to his 'keeper. As they dallied so Sweden's centre forward Sjöberg nipped in and pushed the ball just inches over the line. The Swiss players protested furiously that Sjöberg had fouled their 'keeper by kicking him and the ball in the process.

The game was held up for several minutes, the angry crowd pelted the pitch with all kinds of missiles, but referee Ok was not to be ruffled. He gave a goal and thus Sweden have practically made certain of winning this group and qualifying for Argentina 1978. They can indeed count themselves lucky, not least for being placed in such a weak group!

In a match which the Swiss dominated for long spells, they could not improve on the solitary goal scored by Trinchero, only from a penalty, after Jeandupeux dramatically fell over in the area, but persuaded the referee to award the spot kick.

Triumph

This defeat plunged the soccer fraternity into deep mourning, whilst the debates began to rage passionately in all medias. Among the numerous suggestions put forward by some experts and fans alike, was the old one about using the country's most successful club side "en bloc", as the national team, on the lines tried last season by the Russians with Dynamo Kiev.

Switzerland's currently best outfit, the FC Zürich whose recent triumph over Glasgow Rangers in the European Cup is hailed here as the finest achievement in the club's history, was put forward as the answer to that idea. But Zürich in common with other top Swiss clubs, also have in their ranks foreigners who would not be eligible and therefore such a project has little chance of fulfilment.

NIGHT OUT FOR THE PLAYERS

TO ADD fuel to the fire of controversy over the performance of the national side, now come disquieting disclosures that before the first World Cup qualifying match in Norway some players allegedly enjoy a rollicking night out in Oslo!

The Football Federation have ordered an immediate inquiry and should these rumours be true, then Swiss soccer can brace itself for the biggest scandal in years. For the fans have really taken to heart these continual failures of their national side.

Avalanche

If it is proven that the players had acted irresponsibly before such a vital game, then they would bring the wrath of the public like an avalanche over their heads. A pity really, because the championship is developing into a very exciting race, whilst attendances despite the national team's lapses, have been rising steadily. With an average gate of 8,038 per match, those are the highest figures for five years!

Chivers fails to find his best form

ZÜRICH CONTINUED to set the league pace hotly pursued by Servette, for whom the former Tottenham and England striker Martin Chivers has been very disappointing lately. Just like some of the other Englishmen who recently went abroad (Duncan McKenzie and Roger Davies, both in the reserves with Anderlecht and Bruges respectively, in Belgium), so Chivers too, has so far failed to live up to expectations.

He is being criticised for lack of mobility, slow reactions and absence of the promised striking power. Servette are now regretting that they let their German forward Alfred Hussner return home, where he now plays for VfL Osnabrück.

Hussner couldn't be used alongside Chivers, because according to the Swiss regulations only one foreigner per team can be fielded in all domestic competitive matches.

Switzerland has lately become an "old folk's home" for ageing stars (Netzer, Gress, Chivers, Altafini, Herrmann), but they are now finding out that the competition for places is fierce and that they cannot afford to play here at a leisurely pace.

Highly amusing was this description of Chivers in Switzerland's leading sportspaper "*Sport*" of Zurich, after the match Zürich v. Servette: "He looked like an English aristocrat, from an era which belongs to the past . . ."

ERIC BATTY reports from Belgium

DOUBLE—TOO GOOD TO MISS!

AFTER FC BRUGES held Real Madrid to a 0-0 draw in Malaga, their return European Cup tie in the new Olympiastadion in Bruges looked a fascinating affair. Madrid had it all to do — and no mugs to do it against.

When I heard that another Belgian club, Lokeren, were putting off their home UEFA Cup tie with Barcelona for 24 hours so as not to clash with the Bruges game, that clinched it. The chance to see Real Madrid and Barcelona within 24 hours was too good to turn down.

The previous week-end FC Bruges had been at home to second placed Royal Antwerp and drawing 0-0 allowed RSC Anderlecht to split them and go second. So at the time it was like this at the top:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Bruges	9	6	3	0	19	6	15
2. Anderlecht	9	5	4	0	23	9	14
3. Antwerp	9	5	3	1	12	9	13
10. Lokeren	9	3	3	3	11	10	9

The difference between Bruges and Anderlecht was provided by the goal-less draw between Anderlecht and bottom of the table FC Liege after which the Anderlecht boss Raymond Goethals is said to have complained bitterly about Liege's ultra defensive tactics. Hearing this, Nico Dewalque the Liege centre back who played so many fine games for Belgium under the leadership of Goethals is said to have told Belgian journalists "He can't complain. We only did the things he taught me when I played for him for Belgium".

The top three Belgian clubs each have an English forward: Roger Davies (ex-Derby County) now with FC Bruges; Peter Anderson of Antwerp (ex-Luton Town) and former Leeds United centre forward Duncan McKenzie now with Anderlecht but unable to command a regular place in the side.

McKenzie was undoubtedly engaged to get goals and add to Anderlecht's main battery, left winger Rob Rensenbrink. But Goethals apparently reckons McKenzie is "too Latin in style and temperament" to fit in there. McKenzie now gets the odd game in midfield, with three Dutchmen fulfilling the striking roles for Anderlecht; Peter Ressel (ex-Feyenoord) on the right wing; Robbie Rensenbrink on the left flank and with Arie Haan, the former Ajax star who played as *libero* for Holland in the last World Cup, now playing centre forward.

Seven goals

Anderson clearly is a success, the scorer of seven goals in the first eight games for Antwerp, sharing the top striker spot with Rensenbrink at the time. Then on the day Bruges and Antwerp drew 0-0, Ostende centre forward Jan Simoen scored four times in a bottom of the table clash at home to FC Liege which Ostende won 6-3, and he moved into top place with 10. Anderson however still has seven of Antwerp's 12 league goals to his credit.

Davies appeared to be a more marginal case but he was in the side that beat Real Madrid 2-0 and though he didn't score, he played very well alongside centre forward Raoul Lambert. Lambert had one of his left foot thunderbolt penalty kicks saved in this match by Miguel Angel, but English referee Ken Burns should have ordered the kick to be re-taken.

Miguel Angel jumped forward at least a yard as Lambert made his run-up, and before the ball was kicked he was on his way towards the place that Lambert always puts his spot kicks: high up to the 'keeper's right hand. The Spaniard got a touch to the ball and deflected it on to the top of the bar and away, but he couldn't possibly have got anywhere near it if he hadn't moved too early.

After the match Roger Davies denied reports that he is unhappy in Bruges. "Were you on £1,000 a man to beat Madrid?" I asked him. Davies looked wry, smiled and said: "Not quite that much. Just say much bigger than the bonuses in England".

Quizzed about his unhappiness, Davies said: "I read the report in the *Sun* but no one from that paper contacted me and I don't know where they got it from. I couldn't be happier than I am here." His wife Elizabeth who was with him at the time said she "was very happy in Bruges".

Roger Davies explained that he hadn't always been in the side because his club has four foreigners and the League rules allow only three to play in each game. Manager Ernst Happel picks his team, presumably according to his tactical plans. But Davies played in five of the first nine league games (scoring three goals) and played in a Belgian Cup game in which he scored twice.

Davies now wants to meet Liverpool in the European Cup "because," he told me, "I have never played in a losing team against Liverpool, and whenever I've played against them, I have always scored. Even once when I went on as substitute."

While in Belgium I was told that they have also started to import Britain's crowd violence, though I saw no signs at all of it at Bruges or Lokeren. It appears that the 14 strong panel of First Division referees continually have things thrown at them during games and also as they leave the pitch. One had even been beaten up away from the game and others had received anonymous telephone calls making threats against them and their families.

The referees put new proposals to the FA, including a suggestion that when a player gets a yellow or red card, he should be fined by the FA . . . and his manager and his club should be fined too!

Another controversial suggestion concerned throwing things at linesmen etc. They propose that if anything is thrown on to the pitch at any time, the game be abandoned at once with no points to either club, and that action be taken to safeguard referees and linesmen, before, during and after games.

Real Madrid and Barcelona? Admittedly, Real were without key man Pirri but on the showing of these two teams in Belgium I wouldn't advise anyone to waste time and money going to see them.

Bruges were a much better proposition. A bit too "English" in method, they nevertheless have a lot of skilful players, more skilled than the English overall and they are knit tightly into a well balanced side that is good or very good in all departments. But even they don't stand comparison with Borussia Monchengladbach.

Birgen Jensen — the Danish goalkeeper of FC Bruges.

ANDREW DETTRE...reports from Sydney

Should World Cup minnows really bother?

IN THE November issue of *World Soccer*, Paul Gardner expressed his grave doubt about the real value of the USA making the final 16 in Argentina, then posed the question: "It would be interesting to know if Australia's poor showing in the 1974 World Cup has helped or hindered the sport in that country?"

I'll attempt to throw some light on this more rhetorical question. Two years after the '74 World Cup it is clear that Australia's brief excursion into the international limelight made not the slightest difference in any way to the game at home. But before any elaboration, let me pick a bone with Paul Gardner. He talks of "Zambia and Haiti" in the context of the '74 World Cup and probably means Zaire and Haiti who were properly slaughtered, Zaire losing 9-0 to Yugoslavia in Gelsenkirchen while Haiti going down 7-0 to Poland in Munich. These — just like the USA's 0-7 and 0-10 against Poland and Italy last year — were knockouts in any language.

Australia, on the other hand, in 1974 lost 0-2 to East Germany, 0-3 to the later world champions West Germany and then drew 0-0 with Chile. From the field outsiders, these were respectable results and not "poor showing."

But that's not the point, really. The question asked by Paul Gardner is: should the USA — and should Australia — bother even to reach the finals, will such an achievement open a new golden era or will it really produce that famous post — coital tristesse?

Well, I don't think either is true. In Australia's case, the 1974 World Cup adventure was no more than a fleeting moment of excitement totally unconnected with the domestic game's myriad problems and handicaps.

Possible

Although the Aussies gained only one point in the finals — and failed to score a single goal — their efforts were, on the whole, regarded at home as meritorious even if not *summa cum laude*. But even if we had managed to hold the East Germans to a draw and then beat Chile — and both these looked distinctly possible — soccer as such would not have been transformed into the national game. By the same token, even three straight defeats — and some heavy ones at that — would not have hindered the sport any more than it is being hindered anyway by a whole host of factors.

The sad — nay, tragic — truth is that in countries where soccer is traditionally undeveloped or undernourished, such as Australia and the USA, World Cup results, good or bad, have minimal bearing on the domestic game.

England, after their 1966 triumph and West Germany, following their 1974 win, both experienced tremendous booms because the game's basic foundations were there on which to capitalise. Where average attendances are 30,000 or so per game, great international success can double these figures. But in countries where soccer is still a minor or secondary sport, possibly a largely ethnic pastime if not obsession and where crowds are counted in hundreds and perhaps a couple of thousand, all massive booms are automatically precluded.

This is also what happened in Japan after they gloriously won the bronze medal at the 1968 Mexico Olympics: despite this undoubted success, soccer is still a small fry compared with baseball and the general public doesn't give one hoot whether Japan's national soccer team gets to Argentina or falls by the wayside.

International success in soccer has meaning only in those countries where the hinterland is strong and where the game is the national sport; elsewhere it doesn't make the slightest difference.

This, in fact, is why I am wondering myself why Australia is making so much of its latest World Cup attempts and why the Australian Federation is prepared to bring such enormous financial sacrifices for the dubious honour of reaching the last 16. It's not the possible drubbings that worry me rather than the futility of the exercise. Australia can — and even may — reach the World Cup finals in 1978, then return home without one really embarrassing defeat but all this won't replace Rugby League or the quaint Melbourne mania of "Australian Rules football" with a new soccer boom.

Components

That can only be built on a proper infrastructure, on a traditional "soccer culture" where the basic components are all available: national sport . . . prime interest of youngsters . . . good grounds . . . adequate organisation, etc. Alas, both the USA and Australia lack these.

Consequently the question should be asked: why bother to take part? I have a nagging feeling that in these "under-nourished" countries (and you can add Canada, New Zealand, Japan, etc. for good measure), World Cup participation is demanded not so much by the fans, not even clubs but by the few top administrators who can use this exercise as a brief diversion and, regardless of the results, boast of a place in the finals as a "national triumph."

It is, after all, splendid even if misleading, to claim that Australia was in the final 16 whereas England, Hungary, France, Czechoslovakia, Spain, etc. were not, as though this implied that we are in any way superior rather than the fact that our path to the finals was easier.

Paul Gardner will also find that the national team coach, masseur, physician, selectors and all squad players are highly enthusiastic about World Cup participation.

These always have a vested interest in the venture: travel, glamour and then certain financial benefits. But who else benefits?

Australia's share of the gate takings in 1974 was very considerable. However, due to rash promises (based on a pessimistic assessment of the expected revenue) almost the lot went to the coach and the 22 squad players who gave it to their wives who then spent it in department stores . . . The result: Australian soccer as such, with the exception of about 30 people, failed to derive any lasting benefits from World Cup '74 and will again do so if they reach Argentina.

Ignites

One last possibility must be mentioned and that is the Press. Maybe the mere achievement of reaching the finals ignites new enthusiasm in the Press which then proceeds to "build" soccer into a national game? Well, that's not on, either.

The moment the World Cup is over, the Rugby-minded newspapers revert back to their lopsided coverage and even a minor provincial trotting meeting takes preference over soccer happenings. Freaks have only brief interest for the Press — and an occasional World Cup appearance, without some smashing success, can be considered freakish.

All this, however, should not necessarily mean that the USA, Australia and others in this unillustrious company, ought to forget about the World Cup. It's a jolly good exercise and even fun, so let them have a bash at it. But I would not attach too much significance to this venture knowing full well that no lasting benefits will flow from participation in the final 16 round.

The basic problem of course is not the World Cup but the domestic game. If somehow this could be gradually built up, all efforts would be worthwhile. But to ignore soccer on a weekly basis and then expect a metaphysical miracle from a World Cup appearance is foolhardy, indeed.

Good Czech record

International Microscope

by ERIC BATTY

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	Goals A
Albania	1	1	0	0	3	0
Argentina	3	1	1	1	9	5
Austria	30	14	9	7	59	46
Belgium	6	5	0	1	18	9
Brazil	14	2	5	7	12	22
Bulgaria	11	4	2	5	13	12
Chile	1	0	0	1	0	3
Cyprus	2	2	0	0	7	0
Denmark	9	6	3	0	25	6
Egypt (UAR)	1	1	0	0	2	1
Eire	9	6	1	2	24	9
England	8	2	2	4	11	16
Finland	2	1	1	0	5	1
France	14	8	2	4	27	21
Germany, East	11	3	5	3	17	14
Germany, West	8	3	2	3	16	17
Holland	7	5	0	2	15	7
Hungary	34	9	9	16	60	77
Iran	1	1	0	0	1	0
Ireland, North	2	0	0	2	1	3
Italy	20	6	6	8	29	33
Latvia	1	1	0	0	4	0
Luxembourg	3	2	1	0	9	2
Mexico	2	1	0	1	3	4
Norway	2	2	0	0	6	0
Poland	13	6	4	3	28	23
Portugal	5	1	2	2	6	3
Rumania	23	13	5	5	52	27
Scotland	9	4	1	4	15	15
Spain	6	4	0	2	6	3
Sweden	9	6	2	1	25	13
Switzerland	18	11	4	3	51	30
Turkey	7	4	2	1	18	5
Uruguay	3	1	0	2	4	5
U.S.S.R.	8	2	2	4	10	14
Wales	4	3	0	1	6	2
Yugoslavia	29	17	4	8	85	47
Totals	336	158	75	103	682	495

ALTHOUGH A Football Association was formed in 1901 in Prague and representative games were started early, the Czechoslovak state did not come into being until after the first World War. Thus though the Czechs were amongst the first off the mark amongst continental teams in playing foreign opposition these games don't count as full internationals.

The first of the Czechs representative matches was labelled Vienna v. Prague played in 1899 and drawn 2-2. In 1906 the Czechs ventured further afield to play in Hungary, again labelled Budapest v. Prague and drew 1-1.

In the twenties the three sisters of Central Europe, Vienna, Prague and Budapest were the scene of many more clashes, full international, inter-city games and of course this was the time when the Mitropa Cup began there, the first truly international competition.

These were the days when Czech football was completely dominated by the two Prague giants Sparta and Slavia. They introduced professionalism in the thirties and even imported foreign stars, but the big event for the Czech game was the 1934 World Cup in Italy. There they reached the final, only to lose 2-1 to an 'Italian' team that included Argentinians even then, had government backing and was surrounded by threats and intimidation against the Czech players and the final referee.

Although overall the Czech international record shows that they have generally given better than they got, there have been three highlights so far and in each case these three successes have come at a time when they have had a group of extremely good players who have played together for longish periods and inevitably many of the players have earned high numbers of caps.

The 1934 team included no less than seven players of real ability with the legendary Frantisek Planicka in goal. No other player was capped more times for Czechoslovakia than Planicka until Ladislav Novak, the Dukla Prague left back reached a total of 75 honours in 1963.

Other outstanding members of the team in 1934 were the left wing pair, outside left Antonin Puc (58 caps) and his partner Oldrich Nejedly (42). Inside right Frantisek Svoboda went on to total 42 caps while Jaroslav Burger (54) Josef Kostalek (42) and Josef Ctyroky also finished with 42 caps.

The Czechs next outstanding team reached the World Cup final again in 1962 where they took an early lead against Brazil through Masopust but finally lost 3-1 in Santiago. This team began to take shape four years earlier in the 1958 competition in Sweden and was broadly based on the backs of Dukla Prague's star defenders, Novak (75 caps), right half Svatopluk Pluskal (56) and left half Josef Masopust who earned 63 honours. Completing an outstanding half back line at that time was centre half Jan Popluhar who finished up with 62 international appearances. Other well known players in that side were goalkeeper Viliem Schrojf (39 caps), inside left Andrej Kvasnak (48) and inside right Adolf Scherer who scored 22 international goals in his 36 appearances.

Though the Czechs have almost always had their share of technically good players, their domestic game is played at a very slow pace compared with that in England, West Germany and the top clubs in Holland etc. Thus there has always been a necessity to give players the opportunity to settle down at top level and it is only after perhaps twenty games in the international arena that most Czech players begin to reproduce their best club form.

This is true of course for most other countries (including England) but an additional problem for the Czechs is their somewhat indolent attitude towards hard physical training and their traditional dislike for physical contact.

At the moment of course the Czechs are reigning European champions having beaten West Germany on penalties after a 2-2 draw in the final in Belgrade.

This team was created by Vaclav Jezek who based his squad on Slovan Bratislave and brought in a variety of players from other clubs to try and strengthen the team. Amongst these the midfield pair Antonin Panenka and Josef Moder from Bohemians and Lokomotive Kosice have still to reach 20 caps but once again there was a nucleus of very gifted and experienced players in the Belgrade team.

Top of the list was goalkeeper Ivo Viktor who played a heroic role with 62 caps at the time. Another veteran was ex-right back turned midfield player Karol Dobias who had 51 honours at the time and right back Jan Pivarnik from Slovan who made his 36th appearance against Beckenbauer & Co. The side also included several players first capped by Jezek who had retained their places for around two years and done extremely well.

Three in particular deserve a mention and all look destined to get many more caps. This trio is: the giant stopper and captain Anton Ondrus (25 caps) centre forward Zdenek Nehoda, 12 goals in 28 internationals and right winger Marian Masny who like Ondrus plays for Slovan and had 21 caps at the time of their success.

Perhaps Vaclav Jezek's biggest contribution, apart from carefully trying and sifting the best available players was to get his team to show determination and fighting spirit. As he told me before I saw them beat Russia 2-0 . . . "We must learn to match our skill with hard work AND FIGHT" and without being at all a dirty side they did just that.

For me the new spirit in the Czech camp was exemplified by the attitude of Jaroslav Pollak who after four days in bed with flu turned up in Bratislava 48 hours before the Russia game, insisted on playing . . . and ran his heart out for 90 minutes. Pollak lacks the class of Panenka and the skill of Masny but he works like two men and with players like him Jezek and Cssr will not go far wrong.

Rescue by sponsorship

THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, almost cancelled this season as clubs were unable to face the expected huge deficit, was saved from virtual extinction at the last moment by the sponsorship of a tobacco company . . . and while cigarettes may be one of sport's worst enemies, the Argentine FA did not take long to accept the offer which will cover a third of the heavy travelling expenses for the clubs in this vast country.

The championship is being played by 34 clubs in four sections — all 22 First Division clubs plus promotion winner Platense and 12 provincial champions. The top two of each section enter the final round and in view of the aforementioned financial problem it is strange that the opportunity of big final round gates will be passed up as the eight finalists will decide the title in a simple KO tournament instead of playing each other as formerly.

Pre-championship transfers were topped by forward Saldaño moving from Colon (Sant Fe) to Huracan at a record internal fee for Argentine soccer — but the 100,000 dollars paid may not seem much in international values. Saldaño has paid off and is leading scorer with seven at press time, but altho ·gh Huracan have many good players (inel ; five current internationals) they badly miss centre half Brindisi who was transferred to a European club shortly after the First Division championship ended.

National champions River Plate bought Beltran (forward) and Cocco (midfield), but couldn't get a third former San Lorenzo star, forward Fischer, from Brazil's Vitoria when that club's fans protested to stop the sale. First Division champions Boca Juniors bought Zanabria and Salas from Rosario Central, but neither is a first team regular as the club continues to live dangerously, winning narrowly without playing well, and continues to look for a more organised line up.

Independiente, who have shown slight improvement under the coaching of their former midfield star Omar Pastoriza, ended Boca's 18-match unbeaten run (12 First Division and the first six National Championship games) with a 2-1 victory. Boca had a man sent off and Independiente's winner came from Bertoni only three minutes from the end, but it was deserved.

Classic rivals Boca Juniors and River Plate drew 1-1 in the season's first National Championship meeting — a fair result with neither side prepared to take risks — leaving the series all square with 40 wins each and 28 draws since the 1931 start of professional soccer in Argentina. Both were without their international goalkeepers. Boca's Gatti was under suspension for wearing a hippy head band during matches, while River's Fillol did not turn up because the club would not agree to give him an extra bonus.

Boca Juniors and Independiente from Section A, River Plate and Estudiantes (Section B), Huracan and Rosario Central (Section C), Newell's Old Boys and Talleres Cordoba (Section D) seem most likely to make the final playoff's and give them a familiar look, but internal trouble at River Plate, San Lorenzo and Estudiantes could have a bearing on it.

While disagreement over bonuses is at the bottom of it, the matter is more serious at River Plate where players accuse coach Angel Labruna of favouring certain players, following the advice of some players when

Pablo Cardenas (striped shirt) the player who shone for Racing in their 1967 Inter-Continental Cup Final against Celtic, is back with the team after playing abroad for several years and he hasn't lost his goal-scoring flair. Picture taken during an Argentine National Championship match against Atletico Ledesma.

One line-up of Union Espanola's high scoring attack (62 goals in 29 matches so far) in the Chilean First Division which they top by a point. Left to right: Miranda, Palacios, Spedaletti, Carregado and Valiz.

picking the team, using wrong tactics, failing to explain mistakes and not taking any notice of players out of the first team. The situation could blow up into a major row at any moment — and certainly if River Plate fail to retain the national title. Whatever happens, the club seems to be intent on getting rid of certain players continuously causing trouble at the end of the season.

Talleres Cordoba, strong title contenders last year and unbeaten in their own province for two years until recently, started off badly and although winning their last three games they are still not playing well. Other provincial teams this year are too erratic to mount a serious challenge so far.

Two curiosities . . . Rosario First Division rivals, Central and Newell's Old Boys, who frequently draw their derby meetings, have so far done it four times in four meetings this year — three times without goals . . . Racing's players were blamed by Glasgow Celtic nine years ago for spitting at them when the two teams played for the Intercontinental Cup. It still seems to be part of the now less successful club's tactics. They had a player (Diaz) sent off for doing it the other day.

PARAGUAY

LIBERTAD WON the Paraguayan First Division for the first time since 1945 when Cerro Porteño, who had been leading for most of the season, lost their last three games. Libertad and Cerro were level on 36 points when they met on the last day in front of 50,000 including Paraguayan president Alfredo Stroessner. Libertad won 2-0 with a goal in each half from international Paniagua to take the title and qualify for next year's Libertadores Cup.

The top six (Libertad, Cerro Porteño, Olimpia, River Plate, Guarani, Sportivo Luqueño) qualified for the national championship together with provincial league champions. The winner of this tournament will play vice-champions Cerro Porteño for next season's second Libertadores Cup place.

ECUADOR

CARLOS DELGADO, league leading Nacional's goalkeeper, scored in his team's 5-2 victory over Barcelona when he sent a strong clearance upfield which his opposite number, harassed by a Nacional forward, failed to hold.

Nacional, traditionally fielding only Ecuador players, have been holding a three point lead all month in the second phase of the championship called "Finalización". The top three — presently Nacional (21 pts), Liga Deportiva Universitaria (18) and jointly Deportivo Cuenca and Emelec (17) — qualify for the final round together with the top three of the first phase ("Abertura"). But this looks like being a 4-team affair at the most as Nacional, Emelec and Cuenca also were the top three in the "Abertura". On top of this, the top three in each phase receive three, two and one point as a start in the final round, so it looks ready made for Nacional already.

PERU

ALIANZA LIMA, at the top of the national championship since the start of the season, just went through their 15th game unbeaten by drawing 1-1 three minutes from the end with Sport Boys who were two points behind.

Then rival fans started battling inside the stadium — the first such incident in Peru for 10 years. The following week Alianza's record went with a 4-3 defeat by relegation threatened Colegio Nacional de Iquitos and they were knocked off the top of the table for the first time.

This was followed by another defeat and Alianza's management decided to bring in Dan Georgiades from Greece who had already been their coach several years ago. It didn't immediately stop the rot and the following week they went through their seventh winless game (a 2-2 home draw with Munipal) which left them three points behind one-point leaders Union Huaral as the championship had just passed the halfway stage.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

BRAZIL

FLUMINENSE WON the Carioca League championship by beating Vasco da Gama 1-0 in an extra time final in front of 127,000 spectators at the Maracana stadium and other clubs presently playing the first stage of the national championship in front of poor gates must have looked on enviously.

The Carioca League has been breaking records in this respect all season with their successful formula of playing three championships each season and the winner going into a final round. Their 1953 record had already been broken before the final match with 2,943,264 spectators paying over 48 million dollars for little more than a 100 games.

CHILE

• IN CHILE, with five games to go, it's only champions Union Española (46 pts) and Everton (45) fighting for the title as third placed Green Cross are already a further six points back.

COLOMBIA

• IN COLOMBIA, four clubs within a point of each other — Millionarios, champions Independiente Santa Fe (20 pts), Nacional and Deportivo Cali (19) — are battling it out in the "Finalización" championship to qualify for the final round.

BOLIVIA

• IN BOLIVIA the national championship has started with champions and vice-champions of seven provincial capital tournaments — La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Oruro, Potosi, Sucre and Trinidad, the latter participating for the first time.

Julie Vee of the USA

CANADA PLAY-OFF UNITED

COLIN JOSE reports from North America

A GOAL by 25-year-old Buzz Parsons of the Vancouver Whitecaps of the North American Soccer League which gave Canada a 1-0 win over Mexico may prove to be vital in deciding which team from the CONCACAF region goes to the World Cup finals in Argentina.

Parsons, who at one time played in the reserve teams of Huddersfield Town and Ipswich Town but finally chose to return to his native Vancouver, headed a perfect near post free kick from Bruce Wilson past Castrejon in the Mexican goal in the 32nd minute to give Canada its first ever win over Mexico in a full international.

However, the Canadians who had earlier tied with the United States 1-1, blew their chances of ensuring a berth in the second round of the World Cup preliminary round in the CONCACAF region by dropping a 0-2 decision to the same U.S. team in Seattle in the return game.

In the end all three teams in the Northern Group of the three group CONCACAF region ended tied on points, with the Mexicans advancing to the second round as a result of having a superior goal difference while Canada and the United States are now tied even on goal difference and will have to play off in a neutral country.

This situation came about as a result of a puzzling series of results that saw the United States take three points off Canada, Mexico take three points off the United States and Canada take three points off Mexico.

Canada and the United States opened the competition by playing to a 1-1 tie in Vancouver with Boris Bandov scoring for the U.S. and Bob Bolitho for Canada. Then the U.S. held Mexico to a scoreless tie in Los Angeles thanks largely to the brilliant goalkeeping of Arnold Mausser of the Tampa Bay Rowdies of the NASL.

Advance

Canada then beat Mexico to head the group and with the United States being well beaten in Puebla 3-0 by Mexico, the Canadians only needed a point from their game against the United States in Seattle in order to advance to the second round.

But the United States team was not finished yet and all but put Canada out of the competition with a 2-0 win on goals by

Crisis in Eire

TONY REID reports from Dublin

SOCCER IS dying in Dublin, the capital city of Eire! At a time when interest in the Eire national squad has reached an all time peak, the fans do not want to know about their own domestic soccer affairs.

The Eire national side stands an excellent chance of going to Argentina for the finals of the World Cup competition but there is absolutely no spin-off effect at home at all.

Football fans in Eire would far rather glue their eyes to the T.V. screens for the "Match-of-the-Day" on week-ends and "The-Big-Match" on Sunday afternoons. They show no interest in home clubs like Bohemians, Shelbourne, Shamrock Rovers or Waterford.

On one recent Sunday I conducted a quick poll and discovered that at the three major games in Dublin on that day the total attendance did not quite reach the five thousand mark! Already there is talk in the air that unless the situation improves dramatically clubs will have no option but to go entirely amateur.

As an instance of the problems facing the big city clubs I will relate the position of the oldest, and in recent years, most successful Dublin club, Bohemians.

Bohemians have won nine major prizes in the past five seasons and have competed, with a fair amount of honour, for the past three seasons in Europe. Yet, mainly due to their Eurpean exploits, they have lost more than £15,000 in the period! The average home "gate" seldom goes above two and a half thousand spectators.

In fact if it were not for a hard core of voluntary workers, and a most industrious Management Committee, the club just could not continue, at least with a professional team, very much longer. When it is realised that Bohemians are the most successful side in the capital both trophy-wise and spectator-wise you will begin to understand the enormity of the problem that faces Dublin soccer clubs.

And recently a more sinister aspect has crept into the situation with the sacking of Bohemians part-time professional, Pat Byrne, by his employers, a printing company, because Pat, a most promising midfield man and striker, had to take time off work to play in Denmark and Poland in Bohemians Cup Winners Cup ties.

This decision serves to illustrate the problems that soccer must overcome in Dublin. Another of the Bohemians panel, striker Noel Mitten, formerly on Manchester United's books, was suspended by his employers for taking part and taking time off work to play in the two European games already mentioned. Despite the fact that both players were willing to "pay back" the time off their requests were denied. These problems, added to the disinterested Dublin spectators, makes running a top-class club in Eire's capital city a most thankless task indeed.

Speaking of Europe, Bohemians 4-0 aggregate defeat by Polish club Slask Wroclaw ended Eire's interest in this season's European soccer adventure. The

FACE F WITH STATES

18-year-old Miro Rys of the Chicago Sting and Julie Veee of the San Jose Earthquakes who is currently playing for Lierse of the Belgian First Division.

This set the stage for the deciding game between Canada and Mexico to be played in Toluca, where the rarefied air at 8,661 ft above sea level is generally considered to be worth a two goal lead to the Mexicans.

If the Mexicans won Canada were out. If Canada won the Mexicans were out. Either way the United States were in unless the game ended in a tie. In the first half Brian Budd of the Vancouver Whitecaps hit the Mexican bar and with 17 minutes left to play Antonio de la Torre hit the foot of the Canadian post. But in the end neither team had scored and the Canadians had done what many better known teams had failed to do. Tie with Mexico in Toluca.

But the tie put the Mexicans through on goal difference and has left the United States and Canada to play again thus renewing a rivalry that began back in 1885 when Canada beat the U.S. 1-0 in Newark, New Jersey.

Despite the closeness of the competition the games were far from being notable from the point of view of good soccer and in fact if any of these teams get to Argentina and play in this manner their chances of scoring even one goal will be very slim.

Controversy arose early over the use by the Canadians of Empire Stadium in Vancouver which has artificial turf. In fact the two games Canada played there were the first World Cup games ever played on an artificial surface and just to make matters more difficult the grid iron markings of Canadian style football were left on the field in white at five yard intervals, while the soccer marking were hard to distinguish in red. Efforts by the Canadian Soccer Association to have the football markings removed for both games failed.

If Canada and the United States ever hope to take their places alongside the other major soccer playing nations of the world then artificial turf will have to go. The players hate playing on it and as if to underline just how dangerous it is Canadian sweeper Brian Robinson tore his knee ligaments in the game against Mexico when he tried to turn and his foot locked in the turf.

Artificial

There was not another player within ten yards of him. Already a number of top Euorpean clubs have indicated that they will not play in North America if they are required to play on artificial turf, it should certainly be banned by FIFA from further use in the World Cup or Olympic competition.

Trouble of a different nature arose off the field of play when U.S. coach Walter Chyzowych was ordered off the bench in both games against Canada and had to be restrained from running onto the field during the game the U.S. played in Mexico. In addition the U.S. had Steve Pecher the NASL Rookie of the Year with the Dallas Tornado sent off in the frirst game against Canada and Seattle defender Dave D'Errico booked. D'Errico also received a caution in the second game against Canada as did Rys and Veee, while part way through the competition the U.S. players went on strike for higher wages and bonus money. To top it all off the U.S. dressing room in Puebla was robbed of $700 dollars worth of uniforms and personal belongings.

Dublin club had earned a first round home-and-away win over the Danish team, Esbjerg, in the Cup Winners Cup, but found the vastly more organised Poles a different proposition.

Finn Harps, the small Donegal club, hit the dust at the Baseball Ground where Derby County slammed them by 12-0 in the EUFA Cup first round match. This record one match defeat for an Eire club in Europe "rammed" home the bitter lesson that we are in no way prepared for this sophisticated type of football cut and thrust. Derby travelled to Donegal for the second leg and emerged comfortable 4-1 winners. Dundalk, after holding the mighty Dutch side PSV Eindhoven, to a 1-1 draw in their Champions Cup first leg match in Dundalk went to Holland and were blasted out of the competition by 6-0. Once more the lesson is clear.

As long as Eire clubs, and Icelandic, Luxembourg and Maltese sides continue to struggle along with part-time teams they will remain a million light years away from the "big boys" of Britain and the rest of Europe. For many years the advocates of European football in Eire have said that we can only learn from participation.

Unfortunately all we have learned is how to count as the ball has hit the back of Eire's club sides nets a total of 326 times in 119 matches!

Honolulu to join?

PROFESSIONAL SOCCER in the United States may take a step in a new direction next year with the North American Soccer League leaning heavily towards awarding a franchise to Honolulu, capital of the State of Hawaii.

At the NASL annual meeting held in Bloomington, Minnesota early in October conditional approval was granted for moving the San Antonio team to Honolulu with the final approval expected to come early in December if the people behind the Hawaii application can obtain an acceptable lease on Aloha Stadium.

While no new teams are now expected to be added to the league for the 1977 season other teams are expected to move locations. Among these are the San Diego Jaws, who seem headed for Las Vegas the famous gambling city in Nevada, and both the Rochester and Hartford franchises, one of which could end up in Montreal playing in the Olympic Stadium, which by the way now has artificial turf — the soccer players nightmare.

If San Diego does move the Jaws will be the second one season team in the California city. In 1968 the Toros lasted one season and now the Jaws who only moved in from failure in Baltimore as the Comets appear to be all but gone. Rochester, in the league since 1970 when they won the championship in their first season, have always been a borderline club averaging a steady 5,000 for most years well short of the break even point, while Hartford have just completed their second year without any noticeable success financially in terms of paid attendance.

In Toronto where the league champions Metros-Croatia seem to struggle from one crisis to another it seems likely that the club will change hands passing either to the Carling-O'Keefe Brewing Company or another group being formed among a number of prominent Toronto businessmen with soccer connections. Either way the name Croatia seems sure to be dropped.

According to Chip Campbell, Director of Public Relations for the NASL, nearly half of the crowds at NASL games in the United States are made up of females, while most fans are in the 18-35 age group.

Soccer Bowl 77, the NASL final will be played in Portland, Oregon on either August 27 or 28 thus following the pattern of recent years where the NASL has chosen the site for its final well in advance and in each case chosen a city where regular league attendances seem to ensure a large crowd.

MIDDLESBROUGH STEP FORWARD

THERE'S a long way to go before we're nearing the vital closing period of the English League programme. Three months, at least. Yet it's fairly obvious, even at this halfway stage, that there's a good chance of a new name appearing once more on the long list title winners.

Ever since the championship was first organised last century, it has been mostly decided between a small but powerful coterie of top outfits. The rest have merely made up the numbers, and hardly had a sniff.

This side of the war, for instance, the summit has been shared chiefly between, Liverpool, Wolves, Spurs, Derby, Manchester Utd, Leeds and Everton. Except in 1952, the year of the no-hopers.

That was when Ipswich Town, the East Anglian organisation which then had no real honour to its name, staggered the terraces and stands everywhere by spreadeagling all the odds, and sprinting home exactly twelve months after earning promotion from the Second Division for the first time in their existence.

Now, yet another of the 'unfashionable' teams may change the order of going in, and almost repeat the Ipswich 'miracle' by following up their promotion success of two years ago with a first-ever claim for the pennant.

Middlesbrough have never graced Wembley in either the F.A. or League Cup Finals. Neither have they ever been England's champion club, though some of the greatest players the game has known have worn the famous red shirts.

One brief nostalgic moment recalls the fact that such as Steve Bloomer, Micky Fenton, Eddie Holliday, Wilf Mannion, and, yes, Brian Clough have played their part developing the game in that cold, north-east shipyard town.

Honour

Before we forget, and face the anger of the hordes, there was also the moustachioed George Hardwick, soccer's Clark Gable of the 50's, who had the terrific honour of skippering Great Britain against the Rest of Europe, at Hampden Park, in 1947.

This club, which was originally founded at a tripe dinner in 1876, was gradually sliding down the scale as the fans deserted its windswept acres when the board, in its wisdom, finally decided to improve the old image, and handed the brief to Jack Charlton.

At that time, Cha-Cha, the England and Leeds 'giraffe', who, like brother Bobby, just missed working down that "great bloody hole in the ground" in the colliery home town of Ashington, was wondering about the future.

The sixfooter from the Revie school, grabbed at the offer. He faced up to the crowd challenge of neighbouring Newcastle and Sunderland, re-organised, laid new plans for regaining that lost spot in the top circle, and ultimately won the battle.

A lover of Scotch — like me! — he equally favours discipline, a facet of character which probably explains why dressing-room problems have always been settled without much fuss, and the team always plays as a team, unlike some I could name.

A continuing source of annoyance, however, has been the claim, this season, that Boro are a negative squad because of defensive tactics. Big Jack comes back to that one by pointing out how the boys have set the pace for so many others.

Refusing to take cover against criticism, the Ayrsome boss always digs his heels in with favourable quotes and comparisons, rightly taking a good view of their general play. And, what's more, there's no shortage of support for those opinions.

The optimistic forward look is backed by none other than England marksman Allan Clarke with this comment: "I have watched his team play good, attacking football with a back four that will always take some beating, even in the First Division."

Then there's Johnny Giles, who says, wisely and sadly: When they beat us they didn't play in a negative way, and I thought they looked a good side." So there you are. And that's as it should be in the winter of their centenary celebrations.

Middlesbrough goalkeeper Jim Platt punches clear of a Tottenham Hotspur attack at White Hart Lane.

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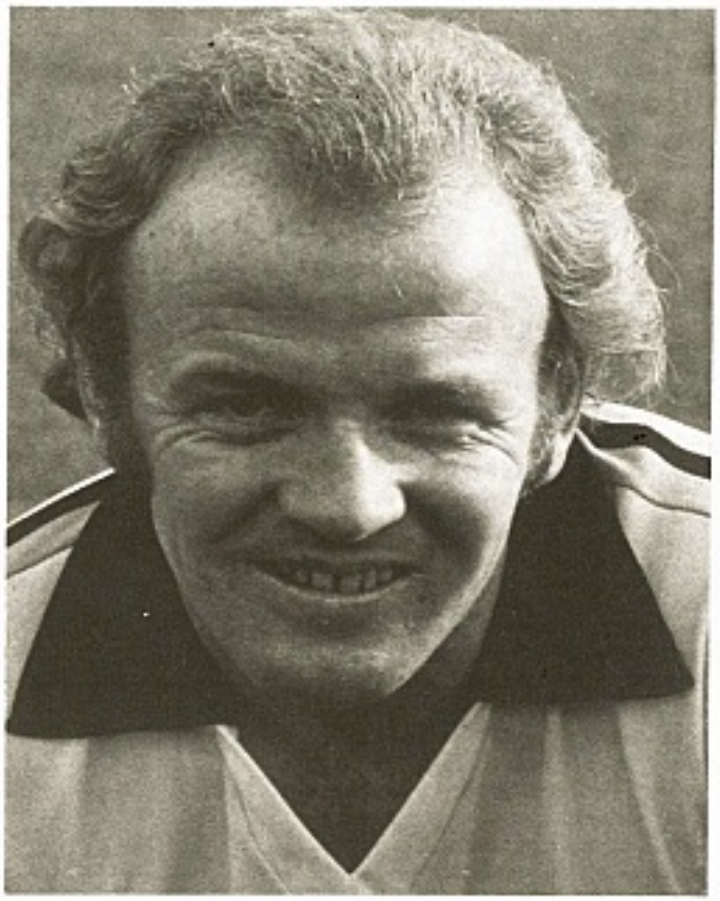
ERIC THORNTON'S SOCCER NOTEBOOK

Bremner tackles new job with Hull City



Billy Bremner, now with Hull City.

WE WERE talking in the board room of a very famous club, the other day, and the conversation gradually focussed on Billy Bremner's decision to move out of the top drawer.

Apparently, everybody is still wondering how this experienced international will come through on heavier grounds, this winter, and against the tougher challenge and tighter marking, especially in games of more physical character.

I've known scores of stars quietly call it a day after just one season's bashing in the lower grades, though here we have a former Scottish World Cup skipper who, admittedly, knows more than a thing or two about winning and keeping possession, and having a go.

Outstanding

He certainly must have recognised the likely dangers after having played over 800 League and Cup games already, both on the wing, at inside-forward, and as an outstanding midfield man, which has always been his best position in the opinion of no less a judge than Don Revie.

Anyway, this man had won all the honours before moving to Hull City, where now, at the ripe old age of 33, his eyes are fixed on another prize — a Second Division championship medal like the one he was awarded twelve years ago.

It would be a nice one to add to a very varied set, yet for me would never cloud the memory of that tremendous night when the 'enemy' cheered his team's very first championship triumph.

It was April 28, 1969. The Leeds boys had just grabbed the point needed to clinch the title at Liverpool's expense. And as they walked off the Anfield pitch The Kop saluted them with a mighty victory chant.

All the players halted in their stride. The manager stood erect. Skipper Bremner looked towards the choir, watched by nearly 60,000. And later told me of feeling the loneliness of the long distance runner in that wonderful moment.

This unexpected move to the coast has had contrasting receptions. To get a view from someone with the right ability for replying its's perhaps best, I think, to take a short trip down the road past the Boothferry Park ground for a talk with no less a person than Mister Horatio Stratton Carter.

That rings a bell? Maybe not in the teenage range; most certainly with everyone else. And throughout Europe, too. For, after all, Raich Carter, of England, Derby and Sunderland was one of the truly greats over three decades.

The silver-haired soccer legend of a lifetime's glory knows exactly the problems Bremner can anticipate at this watershed of a fabulous career, and appreciates how the new life may be anything but a sinecure.

Carter believes this transfer could prove gilt-edged for Hull City, but emphasises that although a personality player may concentrate upon his best position — possibly in defence — he should also be able to score goals when they are in short supply.

Materialising

On that interesting point, he adds: "I've no doubt that Bremner will be boss on the field, being a great defender, but I think that even defenders, when goals are not materialising, should be able to move forward, and knock one in themselves."

He's got something there, of course. That's being proved today, just as history has always proved it. Like Johnny Giles is doing for West Bromwich. And Peter Doherty did for Doncaster. And so on.

The subject of our examination makes no forecast. Time, the hard taskmaster, has supplied Billy Bremner with the wisdom of the old sage, and the knowledge that Hull supporters are longing to savour the First Division atmosphere for the first time since their election to the League in 1905.

Chosen Footballer of the Year in 1971, by we fellows who write about the game, here's his chance to become Clubman of the Year, next May!

Do Scots ignore skilful players?

ON RECENTLY reading an excellent book on Scottish Football entitled "We'll Support You Ever More" edited by Ian Archer and Trevor Royle (Souvenir Press, £4.50) I came across a chapter entitled "Six Years of the Famous Five" by Alan Bold.

The five were Gordon Smith, Bobby Johnstone, Lawrie Reilly, Eddie Turnbull and Willie Ormond and the references to the last named Willie Ormond Scotland's present team manager and the other reminiscences expressed made it impossible to avoid delving back in one's own mind to consider the great players who have represented Scotland so often and even more to recollect those who should have added to their handful or in some cases fingerful of caps.

Willie Ormond was himself a quick, tigerish player in his era and won surprisingly only six caps and as I hope to show, this is a self-destructive trend which the Scots perhaps more than any other international team have followed.

The surprising omission of players with undoubted skill and ability seems to be the penchant of the Scottish selectors and this during a period in time in which Scotland have won nothing of note on the international scene, save for the British International Championship and that not as often as England the "Auld Enemy".

Brilliant

In particular one notices that Jimmy Logie for years a brilliant inside forward with an Arsenal side which won both cup and league honours, gained one cap as did his contemporary with a successful Bolton team, Willie Moir. Another player in that era sadly overlooked was the magical Bobby Mitchell of Newcastle, a ball playing winger who some have unkindly alleged was as the tormentor of Sir Alf Ramsey in their playing days, the cause of the latter's aversion to wingers.

That is a convenient if untrue apocryphal theory which detracts unfairly from Ramsey while still rightly lauds the praises of the Geordie winger who won a hatful of cup winners' medals with the Magpies.

Scotland has always been lucky to have such an abundance of skilful attackers such as Law, Reilly, Dalglish, Jimmy Johnstone and Gordon Smith, but they could surprisingly find room for Alex Young (nicknamed the "Golden Vision" while he was at Everton) on only eight occasions.

Over the way on Mersey-side that other team Liverpool proved that there was no bias in their favour in-so-far as their goalkeeper Tommy Lawrence, arguably the best in Britain for a couple of seasons, found his international jerseys limited to three.

by Ken Goldman

Many consider Kenny Burns one of the best all round players in the football league but until his recent recall to the scene he had appeared in a total of four full appearances while the English Press screamed for a couple of seasons in favour of Queens Park Rangers' Don Masson before he obtained a national place. Others such as Eddie Kelly have yet to obtain recognition.

Perhaps one of the saddest stories involves Willie Young now of Spurs who has been banned for life from representing his country, in circumstances which could give rise to an argument on the processes of natural justice and possibly unreasonable restraint of trade. Good central defenders are always difficult to come by and at Young's present age obviously he has all the makings of a fine player.

Selection is obviously a matter of individual choice but there is frequently room to experiment by capping players with substantial claims. Scotland with its history of error and lack of world cup success more than any other country needs to follow such a blooding rather than blood-letting process.

If readers, particularly Scottish ones, find this piece at all depressing then I can only advocate that they read the book I have mentioned above, for it had much to cheer Scottish hearts and those of all football followers.

MAREK TOP

from A. Tanielian in Bulgaria

AFTER THE tenth round of the Bulgarian Football League Championship many things have attracted particular attention. On the first hand may be said that the prevalence of CSKA, Levski, Slavia, Lokomotiv-Plovdiv to contest the championship title is no more their exclusive right.

Their star players — Denev, Penev, Kolev (CSKA), Milanov, Panov, Voinov, Ivkov (Levski), Bonev, Vassilev (Loko-Plovdiv) — are no more at their peak, while the younger players lack the consistency needed. In the first 3-4 rounds CSKA was as low as seventh place, Levski somewhat higher. About the sixth round, however, they got on top, but it was for a short period.

The 10th round was a near sensation. Newly promoted Marek went top, followed by the well known Trakia and Botev. Trakia are led by their veteran star Dinko Dermendjiev (former well known international). He is the club's top scorer and this year is in a very good shape.

The temporary success of Marek is not accidental — their collective play is highly effective and though they have no distinguished stars brother forwards Ivan and Venzeslav Petrov are not only the best tandem forwards in the new season. I. Petrov is the top scorer in the present championship with eight goals in 10 matches. The coach is Yanko Dikov, who managed to bring the club back to the first division. Director of the club is Rumen Sirbov, former footballer and graduated specialist from the Sofia High Institute for Physical Culture, Football Department.

In the seventh round of the League Championship was played the derby match of the season — Levski-Spartak v CSKA. As always the match involved high tension at all levels. Regretfully violations on the ground were not lacking and the referee marked two players with yellow and one with red cards, all of CSKA.

CSKA were leading up to the 50th minute 2-0 and after Levski made two players' changes the game's picture was radically altered. Levski equalised in the 78th minute and one minute before the end the referee gave a penalty kick in favour of Levski, which was put away by Voinov and Levski won 3-2. The result was not accepted by the Champions and they submitted a protest to the B.F. Federation, claiming that the ref had allowed inadmissible breaches of the game's rules and demanded the match to be replayed.

The F. Federation decided that the claims are groundless and left the protest without consideration. Also the Federation's Board suspended the CSKA player Rangelov (marked with red card) for two official matches. However, the Supreme Board of the Bulgarian Sport Union reconsidered the case and additionally issued a statement, with which was given warning to the referee D. Parmakov that he had allowed unsatisfactory judgment regarding other rough violations and that if he allows similar mistakes in further matches he will be dismissed from the "A" football referee college.

News from HUNGARY by Leslie Vernon

FERENCVAROS AND HONVED ELIMINATED FROM EUROPE

AUF WIEDERSEHEN Ferencvaros! Doszidanya Honved! Better luck next time boys, but I am afraid you are out of Europe once again. The failure of Fradi to make an impact in the European Cup is obviously the more painful, as it is sad to contemplate that no Hungarian team has ever reached the Final of this "creme de la creme" competition, let alone won it.

In the first-leg, an Ebedli cross was headed-in by Onhausz in the 35th minute, but after that solitary moment of joy, visitors Dynamo Dresden took over and dominated the match. Nyilasi was badly injured in the second -half, was taken to hospital with a cracked skull, and now he is out of football for the rest of the year.

Weber, Dynamo's sturdy defender, was another serious casualty — he was stretchered-off with a broken leg. Without Pusztai (out with an earlier injury) and Nyilasi, Fradi had a hopeless task at Dresden against a team which are comfortably leading the East German League, and were the chief providers of players to the national eleven which thrashed Bulgaria away 4-0!

Dynamo repeated that score-line against Fradi with goals by Heidler, Schmuck, Riedel and Kotte. Boden, in the home team's goal, was hardly troubled, and this game clearly showed the still existing gap between the top nations of European football and the Hungarians.

Jeno Dalnoki, Fradi's manager said: "I wasn't even nervous during the second-half. The result was a foregone conclusion, as my players were struggling against vastly superior opposition. The Germans were faster, stronger, better organized. We still cannot compete on this level. Our players are unable to keep up with the pace of the modern game."

A depressing testimony indeed, because it spotlights basic shortcomings which cannot be remedied overnight. But I wonder what has happened to the compulsory training schedules? Clubs are strictly supervised by the F.A., that no coach dares to ignore them or allow players to get away with token participation.

Yet, after two years, they still talk about "the leeway to make up", and "the gradual improvement in our physical preparations". Either the schedule is not sufficiently tough, or there is something basically wrong with the psychological aspects of Hungarian coaching.

Honved 2 Sahtyor Donezk 6! That was the overall score-line in the UEFA-Cup between an Hungarian team of international repute, and another from Russia making their debut on the European circuit. The journalistic jargon surrounding these games was no different from that which dealt with Fradi's fiasco.

And now for the good news! MTK-VM have astonished even themselves by defeating Dinamo 4-1 in front of a 100,000 crowd in Thilisi. Both teams played old-fashioned leisurely football, and that suited the Magyar blue-and-whites. Siklosi, Takacs 2, and Kiss gave them a totally unexpected 4-0 lead before Matsaidze scored the proverbial 'consolation' goal.

A 1-0 win at Budapest was enough to put MTK-VM in the quarter-finals of the Cup Winners Cup. They might go far as they did in 1964 when they were silver medallists. Pity that the Final isn't scheduled for Budapest — that would have helped with the luck of the draw. Videoton have had two bruising battles with S.W. Innsbruck in the UEFA-Cup, and following a 1-1 stalemate in the picturesque Austrian skiing paradise, a Nagy-goal secured a place for them in the last 16.

There were no signs of Hungarian inferiority complex or lack of physical strength and commitment in these games — perhaps the provincials are made of sterner stuff than the boys from the Capital. Or what is more likely, the Hungarians habitually do well against the Austrians on whatever level. To emphasize this long-standing superiority, the national team also won against them in Vienna by four goals to two.

This friendly was a personal triumph for young Zoltan Kereki, who scored twice after the Austrians equalized with a Krankl brace, two earlier goals by Nyilasi.

Following this match, Baroti, national team manager, echoed the feelings of everyone when he lamented: "Why couldn't we play like that against Greece?" So, the national team finished the year, 1976, unbeaten. Of the 10 matches played, they won 5 and drew 5. Goals for 14, against 6. Including the last two games played in '75, v Czechoslovakia (a) 1-1, and Luxembourg (h) 8-1, the unbeaten record now stretches to 12 matches. In these encounters, 33 players were used — Balint, Nyilasi and Fazekas missed only one game each, no one was ever-present.

This run doesn't compare with the best ever record of the 1950-55 era. During that time the national team played 51 games, won 43, drew 7 and lost 1! Goals for 220, against 58! There are no prizes offered to guess which was the one game they lost during that period — yes, it was the World Cup Final against W. Germany at Berne!

Next month — the first-half of the Championship.

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EURO-REVIEW compiled by Keir Radnedge

Second round, first legs
CHAMPIONS' CUP

WHATEVER their internal troubles, Dynamo Kiev have made light of them in the Champions' Cup so far.

Trainers Lobanovsky and Bazilevich have, of course, been fired as Russian team bosses after the disappointing performances in the Montreal Olympics, and the fact that for several weeks Kiev were at the foot of the first division did not improve morale.

Star striker Oleg Blokhin was peeved also at the fact that, ten months after being acclaimed European Footballer of the Year, he still had not been presented with the trophy. After all, Kiev are no strangers in Western Europe. They play more friendly and tour games in France and Spain than any other Soviet teams.

At any rate, in the first round of the Champions' Cup Kiev beat Partizan Belgrade comprehensively (3-0, 2-0), and looked very sharp in the first leg with **PAOK Salonika.** Within 23 minutes they were 3-0 up thanks to Leonid Buryak (two) and Viktor Kilotov, and the eventual 4-0 win put them a long way towards the quarter finals.

That of course, coming after the winter break, will bring its own special problems for Kiev.

Bayern Munich, the holders, didn't make such a definite impression against **Banik Ostrava.** The Czechoslovaks had to play in front of their own fans without four regular first-teamers, but still dominated the first half. Their rewards were goals for Lorenc — from a free kick — and Licka — a header from a corner — before Bayern started putting their game together.

Headed

Shortly before the interval Franz Beckenbauer had a fine shot well saved, and eight minutes after the break Gerd Müller headed a fine goal. Bayern could have won the match, but Uli Hoeness — how he must hate playing against Czech teams now — missed two fair chances.

At least he did provide the cross for the goal by Müller, who had hit a post just previously. Sepp Maier, Beckenbauer and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge were Bayern's best players.

Despite the defeat it looked as if Bayern would ultimately find their way through, just as East Germany's runaway league leaders **Dynamo Dresden** appeared to do themselves a good turn by losing only 1-0 in Hungary to **Ferencvaros.**

Another good away result was that claimed by Belgian champions, **Brugge,** holding **Real Madrid** to a 0-0 draw before 35,000 disappointed Spanish fans in Malaga, where Madrid chose to play because of the continuing UEFA ban on Chamartin.

The reason for the disappointment was not just the result, but the general standard of play. Madrid, despite their fine showing in pre-season tournaments, have struggled in the league, and this performance was no exception. Indeed it took a couple of fine second half saves by goalkeeper Miguel Angel to save them from a rare European home defeat.

Pirri (as ever) was Madrid's best player, with Raoul Lambert and Roger Davies dangerous in counter- attacks for Brugge.

While Brugge went home hopeful, so did **PSV Eindhoven,** despite their 1-0 defeat in France by **St-Etienne,** beaten finalists last season. The result was a repeat of last season's semi-final, apart from the fact that this time the goal came from Argentinian stopper Oswaldo Piazza.

Kees Rijvers, the one-time St-Etienne centre forward who is now PSV coach, approached the tie in a pessimistic mood because of the number of injuries dogging his squad — Ralf Edstroem was barely match fit after four months out of the game.

Surprised

And afterwards Rijvers said that if St Etienne had hit their form of last season, PSV might have been beaten somewhere nearer 3-1.

Dominique Rocheteau and Patrick Revelli gave Jan van Beveran some anxious moments in the first half, but Willy van der Kerkhof was only inches the wrong side of the post with a fine shot, quarter of an hour from the end, which surprised Yvan Curkovic.

If PSV and St-Etienne still had a long way to go, **Zurich** looked about good enough to go through after a 2-0 win over Finland's **Turun Palloseura,** though coach Timo Konietzka would have preferred a bigger winning margin.

Konietzka, who has enjoyed a triumphant four years with Zurich, is being eyed by a number of West German clubs, but his success in Switzerland has earned him such a rich contract it's hard to see him being drawn away — particularly since Zurich have few real rivals to their Swiss domination.

Also favoured to go through, despite a 1-0 first leg defeat in Turkey, were **Liverpool.** Their defeat by **Trabzonspor** didn't much appeal to manager Bob Paisley. He criticised the ball, the state of the pitch, and, last but not least, the referee Nicolae Reinea of Rumania, for awarding a penalty against skipper Emlyn Hughes which Trabzonspor captain Cemil converted for the only goal.

It was a goal which so delighted the fans, several pistol shots were fired in the air. But that was the only chance they got. Apart from an effort by right back Turgay which hit the post late on, Trabzonspor were not very impressive. And that doesn't say much for a Liverpool team, of course, who looked very out of sorts.

They did have an excuse in the long overland journey from Ankara and the stomach bug which had kept up several of the squad all the previous night. The nearest they came to a goal was five minutes into the second half when Trabzonspor defender Kadir blocked a couple of shots on the goal line.

Torino also had plenty of excuses for their surprise 2-1 home defeat by Borussia Moenchengladbach — starting with the injuries which kept Eraldo Pecci out of the game altogether, and robbed them of skipper Claudio Sala after 25 minutes.

But coach Gigi Radice may have brought troubles on his own head with the surprise decision to relegate Paolino Pulici — several times Italy's top scorer — to substitute.

In the event, Pulici did appear as substitute for Sala, but he wandered round aimlessly in midfield and Francesco Graziani up front looked nowhere near as happy with Salatore Garritano as his attacking partner.

Borussia, indeed, actually scored Torino's goal — Jürgen Wittkamp diverting into his own net a shot from Garritano after 64 minutes. That equalised Berti Vogts's early goal which followed a neat one-two with Jupp Heynckes, but the Germans came back to win through a goal by Klinkhammer, who had substituted for Herbert Wimmer.

Borussia were well aware that if they wanted to succeed Bayern as European champions, they faced a race against time. After all, having lost Henning Jensen, his fellow Dane, Allan Simonsen, might be looking for a transfer when his contract expires at the end of the year and Wimmer, now 32, will soon need replacing.

Add to this the fact that Rainer Bonhof has been promised his freedom to go abroad (to Spain or Italy) after the 1978 World Cup and it's clear that, despite what this bare result might lead you to believe, Udo Lattek has plenty of problems on his hands.

Best crowd was the 70,000 who packed the Stadio Communale for Torino against Borussia. Poorest was the 15,500 to see Zurich defeat Turun Palloseura.

Dynamo Kiev 4 (Bryak 4, 22, Kolotov 23, Slobodan 60)
PAOK Salonika 0
HT: 3-0. Att: 50,000

Ferencvaros 1 (Onhausz 34)
Dynamo Dresden 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 30,000

Real Madrid 0
Brugge 0
Att: 35,000 (in Malaga)

St-Etienne 1 (Piazza 62)
PSV Eindhoven 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 38,000

Torino 1 (Wittkamp own goal 64)
Borussia Mg 2 (Vogts 28, Klinkhammer 80)
HT: 0-1. Att: 70,000

Trabzonspor 1 (Cemil 63 pen)
Liverpool 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 25,000

Zurich 2 (Cuccinotta 17, Scheiwiler 72)
Turun Palloseura 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 15,500

Banik Ostrava 2 (Lorenc 11, Licka 28)
Bayern Munich 1 (Müller 53)
HT: 2-0. Att: 31,000

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

NAPOLI MADE a laughing stock of themselves — not for the first time — when they needed a Beppe Savoldi penalty three minutes from the end to save a 1-1 draw in Nicosia against Apoel, who had gone ahead shortly before the interval thanks to Leonidas Leonidou.

There were no such problems, however, for holders **Anderlecht.** Both Frankie Vercauteren and Rob Rensenbrink scored twice in the 5-1 thrashing of Malcolm Allison's **Galatasaray.**

Another team to hit five were **Southampton,** winning in Northern Ireland against Carrick Rangers. Two goals here went to England striker Mike Channon, but generally his display was a face-saver for the English Second Division team who considered themselves fortunate to have been drawn against such meagre opposition as the Northern Ireland B League part-timers.

Two sides in the Cup-winners' first leg hit four goals. One was **MTK Budapest,** who scored a remarkable 4-1 victory away to **Dynamo Tblisi** in Soviet Georgia. Not that everything went straightforwardly for the Hungarians. Their return flights were held up because of fog and their next League match had to be put back a couple of days.

The other side to hit four were **Hamburg.** But they came off the pitch at the end of their 4-2 home win over **Heart of Midlothian** bitterly regretting Park's last-minute goal which gave the Scots some hope for the return.

The West Germans were not having the best of anything, in fact. A few days before this tie they were put out of the West German Cup, beaten 5-1 in Munich by Bayern, and before the return would suffer another Bavarian humiliation, with a 6-1 defeat by Bayern in the league!

Levski-Spartak seemed to have got off to an excellent start against **Boavista** in Portugal when Kiril Milanov — scorer of ten goals in the first round — put the ball in the net after only seven minutes. However the Bulgarians' joy was short-lived.

Rebound

First Welsh referee Clive Thomas ruled the 'goal' out for offside, then the Portuguese stormed back to a 3-1 win. Milanov was unlucky on the hour, when the score was 2-1, to see a fine shot rebound off a post, and Celso scored the third for Boavista with seven minutes to go.

Another East European side to meet defeat in the Iberian peninsula were **Hajduk Split.** Though in their case, the defeat away to **Atletico Madrid** was only 1-0. The goal came from Atletico's new centre forward, Ruben Cano. But it wasn't much of a triumph for him, since he wasted several easier openings.

Janusz Sybis, at 5ft 3in the smallest man on the pitch, was **Slask Wroclaw's** star in the 3-0 home win over **Bohemians Dublin.** He set up the first goal in the opening minute for Joszef Kwiatkowski, then scored the other two himself inside 60 seconds soon after half-time.

Again the Cup-winners' Cup not particularly notable for its big crowds. The best was the 55,000 in Tblisi.

Anderlecht 5 (Coeck 10, Vercauteren 19, 81, Rensenbrink 59 pen and 72)
Galatasaray 1 (Ozdowak 49)
HT: 2-0. Att: 40,000

Apoel Nicosia 1 (Leonidas 37)
Napoli 1 (Savoldi 87 pen)
HT: 1-0. Att: 12,000

Atletico Madrid 1 (Ruben Cano 49)
Hajduk Split 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 38,000

Boavista 3 (Celso 16, 83, Mane 43)
Levski-Spartak 1 (Milanov 28)
HT: 2-1. Att: 15,000

Carrick Rangers 2 (Irwin 56, Prenter 83)
Southampton 5 (Channon 61, 85, Stokes 10, McCalliog 67, Osgood 80)
HT: 0-1. Att: 8,000

Steve Coppell of Manchester United heads over the bar during the first leg of his side's UEFA Cup tie against Juventus.

Hamburg 4 (Bjornmose 2, Eigl 35, Reimann 59, Gallacher own goal 67)
Hearts 2 (Busby 15, Park 89)
HT: 2-1. Att: 25,000

Dynamo Tblisi (Macheidze 89)
MTK Budapest 4 (Shyloshi 35, Takach 51, 76, Kish 86)
HT: 0-1. Att: 55,000

Slask Wroclaw 3 (Kwiatkowski 1, Sybis 49, 50)
Bohemians Dublin 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 10,000

UEFA CUP

BRITISH CLUBS had a mixed time of it in the UEFA CUP, where they traditionally do well.

Derby settled on an uncharacteristic defensive formation, which earned its just reward with a 2-0 defeat in Athens by **AEK,** the club managed by former Holland boss, Frantisek Fadrhonc. Both AEK goals came from their West German forward, Walter Wagner.

Nikoloudis also got the ball in the Derby net, but Belgian referee Francis Rion disallowed a goal because the direct free kick had been taken before he had signalled.

Queen's Park Rangers, in contrast to Derby, went out to Czechoslovakia determined to attack **Slovan Bratislava,** and were in fact 2-1 up at half-time. Slovan's best player was Marian Masny, who again gave Ian Gillard — England's full back for the 2-1 defeat by Czechoslovakia in the European Championship — a tough time of it.

Slovan's third goal came from Anton Ondrus, the giant defender who had been sent off in his previous two internationals — a friendly with Rumania, and the 2-0 World Cup win over Scotland.

Manchester United also did plenty of attacking against **Juventus** at Old Trafford, but the only reward they earned was a brilliant volleyed goal from Gordon Hill. There was the usual popular outcry of "Animals, animals," as the Italians left the pitch at the end, but even the British Press had to admit that United's young hopefuls played up the incidents.

A 1-0 defeat was a good result for Juve, but they could easily have had several goals in breakaways. Both Franco Causio and Roberto Boninsegna could so easily have made United pay for their all-out offensive.

The other British team, **Hibernian,** found it relatively easy to go 2-0 up before half-time against **Oesters Vaxjo.** But the Swedes, coached by Gunnar Nordahl, hung on to maintain an outside chance of pulling off a surprise.

Several scandals, or rumours of them, hung in the air after **AC Milan's** peculiarly high-scoring 4-3 defeat in Bulgaria by **Akademik Sofia.** First two Milan officials suffered nasty injuries in a fall while trying to board the plane home, and then Milan skipper Gianni Rivera accused the Bulgarians of doping their players.

Red Star Belgrade had no such complaints however after their 2-1 defeat in Austria by **Austria Salzburg.** But Belgian unknowns **Lokeren** were perhaps a little unlucky to concede two goals in the last 11 minutes to lose their match away to Barcelona. The 80,000 crowd were most disappointed with the efforts of Johan Cruyff and Co, but appreciative also of the form of Lokeren's Polish star, Wlodek Lubanski, who was shortly to make a long-awaited return to the Poland team for the World Cup qualifier with Cyprus.

A second Spanish team, **Athletic Bilbao,** could be pleased with a 1-1 draw in **Basle,** while **Espanol Barcelona** earned virtually all the praise going despite their 2-1 defeat in West Germany by Eintracht Braunschweig.

Another Bundesliga club in trouble were **Kaiserslautern,** held 2-2 at home by **Feyenoord** after Wim Rijsbergen played the 'Lauterers centre forward, Klaus Toppmöller, to a standstill.

Another German not having the best of things was Günter Netzer. He was far outplayed by one-time national team rival Wolfgang Overath, as **Grasshoppers Zurich** went down 2-0 in **Köln.** The second goal was scored by Dieter Müller, after Grasshoppers had reacted in lively fashion to Konopka's first.

Hungary's **Videoton** did well to hold **Swarowski Wacker** 1-1 in Innsbruck ,and goals from Steinbach and Manfred Zapf looked just enough to ease **East Germany's Magdeburg** towards the third round at the expense of **Dynamo Zagreb.** It looked like curtains too for **Honved,** beaten 3-1 in the Soviet Union by **Shakhter Donetsk,** and Rumania's **Sportul Studentesc,** beaten 1-0 at home by **Schalke.**

● *Continued overleaf*

EURO–REVIEW

• Continued from previous page

To round it off, **RWD Molenbeek**, who have parted company after one unhappy year with Paul van Himst, secured a 1-1 draw in Poland with **Wisla** thanks to a late goal from Morten Olsen.

Best crowd by a long way was the 80,000 who saw Barcelona and Lokeren, followed by the 59,021 for Manchester United and Juventus.

AEK Athens 2 (Wagner 65, 89)
Derby 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 32,000

Akademik Sofia 4 (Panunov 17, 50, Manolov 25, Dimitrov 40)
AC Milan 3 (Capello 33, 80, Colovatti 47)
HT: 2-1. Att: 5,000

Austria Salzburg 2 (P. Schwarz 72, W. Schwarz 74 pen)
Red Star Belgrade 1 (Filipovic 35)
HT: 0-1. Att: 18,500

CF Barcelona 2 (Cruyff 79, Clares 89)
KSC Lokeren 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 80,000

Basle 1 (Marti 2)
Bilbao 1 (Madariaga 45)
HT: 1-1. Att: 15,300

Eintracht Braunschweig 2 (Frank 16, Stolzenburg 53)
Espanol 1 (Marancn 23)
HT: 1-1. Att: 20,900

Hibernian 2 (Blackley 34, Brownlie 36)
Oesters Vaxjo 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 12,000

Swarowski Innsbruck 1 (Stering 53)
Videoton 1 (Czeczeli 63 pen)
HT: 0-0. Att: 9,500

Kaiserslautern 2 (Briegel 28, 65)
Feyenoord 2 (De Jong 38, N. Jansen 42)
HT: 1-2. Att: 20,000

Koln 2 (konopka 37) Müller 77)
Grasshoppers 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 18,000

Magdeburg 2 (Steinbach 18, Zapf 55)
Dynamo Zagreb 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 33,000

Manchester Utd 1 (Hill 31)
Juventus 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 59,021

Shakhter Donetsk 3 (Shevluch 3, Starukhin 35, Vasin 82)
Honved 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 38,000

Slovan Bratislava 3 (Novotny 13, Haraslin 52, Ondrus 62)
Queen's Park Rangers 3 (Bowles 24, 67, Givens 30)
HT: 1-2. Att: 40,000

Sportul Studentesc 0
Schalke 1 (Fischer 59)
HT: 0-0. Att: 5,000

Wisla Cracow 1 (Kapka 7)
RWD Molenbeek 1 (Olsen 76)
HT: 1-0. Att: 40,000

Second round, second legs
CHAMPIONS' CUP

OFTEN THE second legs seem much easier to report. The results are definite, there is no more room to speculate on what might have been, or what might be.

This stage of the European competitions was no exception, with fewer ties than we might have expected decided on penalties, or even going to extra time.

The biggest uproar arose at Düsseldorf, where **Torino** came to try to catch up on **Borussia Moenchengladbach.** Torino coach Gigi Radice said beforehand: "It is all or nothing." Apart from being without the injured Pecci and Claudio Sala, Italian international midfielder Renato Zaccarelli was also doubtful and only underwent light training before the game.

The match soon turned into a brawl, with the Italians doing most of the kicking and the West Germans restraining their tempers pretty well. Fortunately Belgian referee Freddie Delcourt was on top of the match, even if he had to take stern action in the end, which earned plenty of insults from the Italians.

Torino sweeper Vittorio Caporale was booked for a foul after only six minutes, and three minutes later another yellow card was presented in the face of Paolino Pulici.

Borussia weren't effective up front and one of the best early chances was wasted by Torino's Italian league top scorer, Francesco Graziani. That was after 27 minutes. Just 17 minutes later and we had the first of three expulsions.

Penalty

Caporale was the man to go just before half-time, and after the break Borussia came their nearest to a goal — Luciano Castellini having to make several fine saves.

In the 68th minute Zaccarelli was sent off for a bad foul, and Castellini followed him three minutes later for pulling down del Haye outside the penalty area. Graziani went in goal, but still Borussia could make no impression. They grew ragged and were pleased just to survive.

Coach Udo Lattek said: "We should forget this game as soon as we can. I know the Italians play hard, but this was going too far. I'm just glad no-one was badly hurt."

Radice at first refused to comment. But later he said: "There were fouls, but I don't think it was fair to bring out the red card. Football is a combative sport and we didn't play too hard."

Borussia, of course, were involved in a previous scandal with Italians in 1971-72, when they were knocked out of the Champions' Cup because of the beer can which a German fan lobbed at Inter-Milan's Roberto Boninsegna.

This time it's Borussia who go through to the next round, the quarter finals, a little closer to a tantalising meeting (perhaps?) with **Bayern Munich.**

The holders were in imperious form in thrashing **Banik Ostrava** 5-0. Gerd Müller, who had scored four times and missed a penalty in the previous weekend's league win over Hamburg, scored twice more. Indeed, had it not been for some tremendous saves from Michalik, the Bayern total could have run into double figures.

Jiri Rudas, Banik's coach, was certainly realistic before the match when he said: "For us the quarter finals are just a dream." As it turned out, the match was a nightmare, since Banik still had to play without the injured Knapp, Tondra, Rus and Radimec.

The best Bayern goal was the second, after 37 minutes, scored by Karl-Heinz Rummenigge after he dribbled half the length of the pitch.

St-Etienne, beaten finalists last year, are also through, after repeating the results of last season's semi-final with **PSV Eindhoven.** Having won 1-0 at home, the French champions held on 0-0 in Holland. That was a result to please Paris Saint Germain, who have PSV coach Kees Rijvers as No 1 target for next season.

Rijvers said: "I can't complain. We tried hard, but we just weren't good enough. That's 360 minutes against St-Etienne and we still haven't scored once!"

Last season's other semi-finalists also went out as **Real Madrid** were beaten 2-0 by **Brugge.** Paul Breitner was in superb form for Madrid, extending Birger Jensen several times. But the nearest Madrid came was a second-half shot from Rubinan which struck a post.

Flicked

Ulrik Lefevre scored a fine solo goal to open the scoring after 19 minutes, and the second came shortly before half-time when Raoul Lambert flicked on a Julien Cools corner, and Jose Camacho diverted the ball into his own net.

Lambert could have made it three shortly before the end of the match, but Miguel Angel saved his penalty after Cools had been brought down.

Dynamo Dresden swept through by beating **Ferencvaros** surprisingly easily, 4-0, and **Zurich** were never troubled in beating **Turun Palloseura** 1-0 in Finland, before a meagre 823 crowd.

Dynamo Kiev were again in form, beating **PAOK Salonika** with late goals from Kolotov and Blokhin, though the Greeks did waste a penalty in the first half.

No waste at Anfield. **Liverpool** put three goals past **Trabzonspor** in the first 18 minutes and that was that. The Turks held on by dint of desperation tactics, reflected in the expulsion of second half substitute Milemic Cemil for a bad foul on Phil Neal.

Unlike Radice, Trabzonspor coach Ahmet Suat was prepared to say: "I am very sorry about what happened at the end. I expected more from my team. Liverpool were just too strong and fast for us."

A crowd of 67,000 saw Borussia and Torino — 823 turned up for Palloseura and Zurich.

Bayern 5 (Müller 15, 49, Rummenigge 37, Kapellmann 71, Torstensson 74)
Banik Ostrava 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 55,000
Bayern 6-2 on agg

Borussia Mg 0
Torino 0
Att: 67,000 (in Düsseldorf)
Borussia 2-1 on agg

Brugge 2 (Lefevre 19, Camacho 44 own goal)
Real Madrid 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 32,000
Brugge 2-0 on agg

Dynamo Dresden 4 (Heidler 42, Schmuck 52, Riedel 59, Kotte 73)
Ferencvaros 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 33,000
Dresden 4-1 on agg

Liverpool 3 (Heighway 8, Johnson 10, Keegan 18)
Trabzonspor 0
HT: 3-0. Att: 42,275
Liverpool 3-1 on agg

Turun Palloseura 0
Zurich 1 (Cucinotta 70)
HT: 0-0. Att: 823
Zurich 3-0 on agg

PAOK Salonika 0
Dynamo Kiev 2 (Kolotov 71, Blokhin 82)
Ht: 0-0. Att: 35,000
Kiev 6-0 on agg

PSV Eindhoven 0
St Etienne 0
Att: 20,000
St-Etienne 1-0 on agg

CUP-WINNERS'CUP

KIRIL MILANOV took his competition goals total to 12, as **Levsky Spartak** sneaked past **Boavista**, winning the second leg 2-0 and taking the tie on away goals.

Few other teams had such problems. **Anderlecht**, for example, thrashed Malcolm Allison's **Galatasaray** 5-1 to repeat their first leg win with a fine exhibition in front of the Turkish fans.

Rob Rensenbrink scored twice more in a game held up for eight minutes after a missile was thrown at Arie Haan as he was about to take a corner.

That meant Anderlecht had a 10-2 aggregate win, even better than **Southampton**, who included several youngsters in completing the formalities of putting out **Carrick Rangers**. Austin Hayes, an 18-year-old Londoner, deputised for the injured Mike Channon and scored twice in his first-team debut.

The other British representatives remaining, **Hearts**, had no such fortune. **Hamburg** were a class higher and came to Edinburgh to improve on their winning score in Hamburg. This time it was 4-1 to the West Germans, with Eigl and Magath each scoring twice.

There were no problems either for **Slask Wroclaw**. They won 1-0 away to **Bohemians**, to make the score 4-0 on aggregate. Reserve full back Bakerczak set up the goal with a run and cross, Sybis stepped over it, and Pawlowski pushed the ball home. Bohemians had a couple of half chances, but generally found Wladyslaw Zmuda in commanding form in Slask defence.

No problems either for **MTK Budapest**, though they had to wait until the penultimate minute to increase their lead over **Dynamo Tbilisi** to 5-1.

Atletico Madrid did very well to win 2-1 away to **Hajduk Split** and go on in their attempt to regain the trophy they won in 1962. **Napoli**, however, again had trouble with the Greek-Cypriots of **Apoel**, winning just 2-0.

A 40,000 crowd saw Levsky Spartak beat Boavista as against the 3,000 in Dublin for Bohemians and Slask.

Bohemians 0
Slask Wroclaw 1 (Pawlowski 32)
HT: 0-1. Att: 3,000
Slask 4-0 on agg

Galatasaray 1 (Gokmen 25)
Anderlecht 5 (Rensenbrink 15, 52, Haan 41, Ressel 67, Coecks 84)
HT: 1-2. Att: 35,000
Anderlecht 10-2 on agg

Hearts 1 (Gibson 69)
Hamburg 4 (Eigl 12, 70, Magath 32, 80)
HT: 0-1. Att: 25,000
Hamburg 8-3 on agg

Levsky Spartak Sofia 2 (Panov 13, Milanov 30)
Boavista 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 40,000
Levsky on away goals, 2-2 on agg

MTK Budapest 1 (Koritar 89)
Dynamo Tbilisi 0
HT: 0-0. Att: 12,500
MTK 5-1 on agg

Southampton 4 (Williams 16, Hayes 31, 74, Stokes 68)
Carrick Rangers 1 (Reid 36)
HT: 2-1. Att: 15,130
Southampton 9-3 on agg

Napoli 2 (Speggiorin 9, Massa 25)
Apoel 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 35,000
Napoli 3-1 on agg

Hajduk Split 1 (Zungul 16)
Atletico Madrid 2 (Ayala 53, Leal 59)
HT: 1-0. Att: 20,000
Atletico 3-1 on agg

UEFA CUP

IT'S RARE enough for an English team to be beaten in the UEFA Cup, but for an English team to be beaten at home is virtually unheard-of.

Yet that was the fate of **Derby** against **AEK Athens**, as they paid a heavy price for their foolish caution in Greece.

Derby manager Dave Mackay was sensible enough to warn his team before the game not to be impatient. But his advice that they should use a 4-3-3 system to guard against AEK breakaways obviously didn't have much effect.

Derby waited until the 53rd minute before Charlie George beat AEK's unpredictable goalkeeper, Laris Stergioudis, and were then caught out three times before Bruce Rioch scored a second with two minutes to go. It made no difference by then. Derby were beaten 3-2 at home and went out 5-2 on aggregate.

Derby's fans went home blaming young goalkeeper Graham Moseley for being caught out by the Nikoloudis free kick which put AEK back into the game at 1-1, but if Derby had shown more enterprise in Athens they might not have been in a position in which such a mistake proved vital.

Queen's Park Rangers, having attacked and come within an ace of winning in Bratislava, were able to go on without any sort of apprehension in their home leg with **Slovan**, Cup-winners' Cup holders from several years back.

Slovan manager Michal Vican — he was in charge of Ruck Chorzow last year — came over in a pessimistic frame of mind because of the loss, through injury and some odd other causes, of half a dozen of his first team squad. Jan Privarnik and Joszef Capkovic were among the injury victims — Pavel Svehlik had begun his national service and been temporarily transferred to Dukla Prague.

There was never much doubt about the outcome, with QPR good winners. But the Slovaks, despite their plight, rose to the occasion to present an entertaining night at Loftus Road.

One English team through . . . and a second one out as **Manchester United** were contemptuously pushed aside by **Juventus** in Turin. A riot squad of 600 police was present for the match after trouble among fans in the Studio Communale the previous Sunday, but the only incident was near the end when a United fan tried to get onto the pitch.

The rest of the time the Italians were happily able to confine themselves to the drums, bugles and fireworks we expect.

Their fireworks on the pitch were provided by Franco Causio, Marco Tardelli and Roberto Boninsegna. Causio and Tardelli put their stamp on each of the goals, while Boninsegna scored the first and second with the kind of flourish he rarely displayed for Internazionale. Romeo Benetti, adjusting more slowly to his new team-mates, scored the third.

Scotland's only survivors, **Hibernian**, also went out. A 2-0 lead should have been enough against **Oesters Vaxjo**, but defensive carelessness meant that Anders Lideroth and Inge Ejderstedt — once of Anderlecht — could bring the Swedes all square by half-time. Hibernian were now so demoralised that the same two players doubled the score in the second half. Ejderstedt also wasted a simple chance to complete his hat-trick.

West Germany lost two of their representatives — **Eintracht Braunschweig** and **Kaiserslautern** going out as expected against **Espanol** and former UEFA Cup-winners, **Feyenoord**.

But **Koln** and **Schalke** went through easily against **Grasshoppers** and **Sportul Studentesc** of Bucharest. Two of Schalke's goals in their 4-0 home win came from the controversial Hannes Bongartz, who, apart from his expert play, had also been in the news recently over a minor war of words with Yugoslav international captain and club team-mate, Brane Oblak.

As well as Espanol, **Athletico Bilbao** went through as expected against **Basle**, and so did **Magdeburg** — another former Cup-winners' Cup holder — against **Dynamo Zagreb**.

Another Iron Curtain side, **Shakhtor Donetsk**, surprised **Honved** by winning in Budapest, but **Videoton** scored a 1-0 win against **Swarowski Wacker** which was just enough.

A 1-0 win was enough, too, for **Red Star Belgrade** to go through on away goals against **Austria Salzburg**. But they left it late. Zoran Filipovic didn't squeeze the ball into the net until the 80th minute.

Closer than that, indeed the closest tie of the round, was the one between **RWD Molenbeek** and **Wisla Crakow**. With the score 1-1 after extra time, it was also 4-4 after the statutory five penalty kicks. Wisla then wasted No 6, and Wellens made no mistake to add more gloom to the night for the Poles — World Cup defender Adam Musial had been sent off towards the end of extra time.

At least **Milan** settled their arguments with **Akademik** early on. Egidio Calloni and Giorgio Morini had it all wrapped up in the first half an hour.

Lokeren gave **Barcelona** a scare, wiping out the Spanish side's 2-0 lead by just 25 minutes. But that was as far as they got. Johan Cruyff hit a brilliant goal nine minutes inside the second half, and CFB squeaked through 3-2 overall.

Bilbao 3 (Villar 44, Carlos 62, Rojo I 70)
Basle 1 (Marti 66)
HT: 1-0. Att: 30,000
Bilbao 4-2 on agg

Derby 2 (George 53, Rioch 88)
AEK Athens 3 (Nikoloudis 69, Tassos 79, Wagner 85)
HT: 0-0. Att: 28,746
AEK 5-2 on agg

● Continued on page 49

LEAGUE TABLES

ARGENTINA: National Championship
(Top 2 from each section enter finals)

Section A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boca Juniors	7	5	1	1	12	6	11
Quilmes	7	4	2	1	10	5	10
Independiente	7	3	2	2	8	8	8
Atletico Tuc.	7	2	3	2	10	9	7
Gimnasia Jujuy	7	2	2	3	9	11	6
Gim. La Plata	7	2	2	3	5	7	6
Chacarita Jnrs.	7	1	2	4	7	4	4
Temperley	7	1	1	5	8	12	3

Section B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
River Plate	7	5	2	0	18	5	12
Banfield	7	3	3	1	12	6	9
Estudiantes La P	7	3	2	2	8	8	8
Racing Club	7	3	1	3	9	9	7
Atlet. Ledesma	7	3	1	3	4	7	7
Atlanta	7	2	2	3	7	9	6
San Telmo	7	1	2	4	6	16	4
San Martin T.	7	1	2	4	3	7	4

Section C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huracan	7	4	2	1	15	6	10
Rosario Central	7	3	4	0	9	5	10
Aldosivi M d P	7	4	1	2	12	8	9
Platense	7	4	1	2	12	8	9
Union S. Fe	7	2	3	2	7	7	7
San Martin M.	7	2	3	2	11	10	7
Velez Sarsfield	7	1	3	3	7	10	5
Sp. Pat. For.	7	1	1	5	8	17	3
All Boys	7	0	1	6	2	15	1

Section D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newell's OB	7	4	2	1	11	6	10
Argentinos Jnrs.	7	4	1	2	11	5	9
FC Oeste	7	4	1	2	11	8	9
Talleres Cor.	7	3	1	3	11	10	7
San Lorenzo	7	2	3	2	9	9	7
Colon S. Fe	7	2	3	2	7	9	7
Huracan Com. R.	7	3	1	3	6	5	7
Cent. Norte Salta	7	2	2	3	6	10	6
San Lor. M. d P.	7	1	1	5	10	18	3

URUGUAY: Major League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	8	7	1	0	18	2	15
Danubio	8	5	2	1	18	11	12
Peñarol	8	4	4	0	17	9	12
Rentistas	8	4	0	4	14	15	8
Liverpool	8	2	4	2	14	11	8
Wanderers	8	2	4	2	14	10	8
Sud America	8	3	1	4	16	16	7
Defensor	8	3	1	4	9	10	7
Huracan Buceo	8	2	2	4	10	18	6
River Plate	8	0	5	3	8	15	5
Cerro	8	1	3	4	10	21	5
Fenix	8	1	1	6	6	17	3

(Top eight continue playing second round after three more games)

VENEZUELA: Professional League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portuguesa	22	12	6	4	38	18	30
Estudiantes	23	8	9	6	25	22	25
Portugues	22	9	6	7	33	30	24
Italia	23	6	10	7	24	25	22
San Cristobal	22	6	9	7	19	20	21
Galicia	21	6	7	8	25	28	19
Universitario	23	5	9	9	19	38	19
Valencia	22	7	4	11	32	34	18

ECUADOR: "Finalizacion" Championship
(15 games — three to go)

1) Nacional Quito 21 pts; 2) Liga Deportiva Universitaria 18; 3) Deportivo Cuenca & Emelec 17; 5) Carmen Mora & Aucas 15; 7) Barcelona 14; 8) Universidad Catolica 13; 9) Deportivo Quito 11; 10) Audaz Octubrin 9.

PERU: National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Union Huaral	19	9	7	3	26	13	25
Sport Boys	19	7	10	2	30	21	24
Universitario	19	9	6	4	26	20	24
Juan Aurich	19	7	9	3	19	16	23
Alianza Lima	19	6	10	3	30	16	22
L. de Huanuco	19	6	9	4	23	18	21
Dep. Junin	19	7	6	6	23	18	20
Sporting Crist.	19	4	10	5	15	16	18
Melgar	19	6	6	7	30	32	18
Dep. Municipal	19	4	10	5	23	26	18
Cienciano	19	5	7	7	24	24	17
Alfonso Ugarte	19	6	4	9	27	27	16
Defensor Lima	19	6	4	9	29	39	16
Col. Nac. Iquitos	19	3	9	7	16	24	15
Atletico Chalaco	19	3	9	7	25	26	15
Carlos Manucci	19	6	0	13	14	44	12

COLOMBIA: "Finalización" Professional Championship

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millionarios	16	6	8	2	29	23	20
Indep. Santa Fe	16	8	4	4	19	13	20
Nacional	16	8	3	5	28	16	19
Dep. Cali	16	8	3	5	33	25	19
Cucuta	16	4	6	6	21	24	14
Caldas	15	6	2	7	24	24	14
Junior	16	3	7	6	15	21	13

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Medellin	16	7	5	4	23	19	19
Quindio	16	5	9	2	17	13	19
Bucaramaranga	16	6	5	5	16	17	17
America	16	4	5	7	19	19	13
Union Mag.	15	3	7	5	16	18	13
Pereira	16	3	7	6	14	23	13
Tolima	16	2	4	10	12	30	8

CHILE: First Division
(5 matches to go)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Union Española	29	18	10	1	62	26	46
Everton	29	19	7	3	63	34	45
Green Cross	29	16	7	6	56	30	39
Univ. de Chile	28	14	9	5	54	33	37
Colo Colo	29	13	11	5	47	30	37
Palestino	29	13	10	6	55	43	36
Univ. Catolica	28	10	8	10	41	38	28
Wanderers	29	10	7	12	43	52	27
Ovalle	29	8	11	10	40	35	27
Antofagasta	29	10	6	13	45	56	26
Concepcion	29	10	6	13	50	48	26
Huachipato	29	10	5	14	42	51	25
Aviacion	29	8	9	12	46	53	23
Santiago Morn.	29	8	6	15	33	48	22
Lota Schwager	29	5	11	13	35	57	21
Rangers	29	5	10	14	39	50	20
Naval	29	5	8	16	38	45	18
La Serena	29	4	5	20	32	55	13

PARAGUAY: First Division
(Final Standings)

1) Libertad 38 pts; 2) Cerro Porteño 36; 3) River Plate 33; 4) Olimpia 32; 5) Guarani 27; 6) Sportivo Luqueño 26; 7) Nacional 20; 8) Resistencia 15; 9) Rubio Nu 14 (all after 26 games). Top six qualify for national championship.

EGYPT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	7	2	4	1	6	2	8
Misr	7	2	4	1	6	5	8
K. Alsheik	7	1	6	0	5	4	8
Plastics	7	3	2	2	4	5	8
Mansoural	7	2	4	1	4	5	8
Ahly	4	3	1	0	6	2	7
Ittihad	5	3	1	1	5	3	7
Olympic	7	1	4	2	3	5	6
Zamalek	4	2	1	1	6	4	5
Aviation	7	1	3	3	7	8	5
E.S.R.	7	1	3	3	5	6	5
Ismaili	6	1	3	2	3	4	5
ESCO	6	2	1	3	7	9	5
Mahalla	4	0	3	1	3	4	3
Suez	5	0	2	3	4	8	2

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundee United	10	8	0	2	21	13	16
Aberdeen	8	4	3	1	16	8	11
Celtic	9	4	3	2	19	9	11
Motherwell	9	3	3	3	16	16	9
Partick Thistle	9	3	3	3	10	10	9
Hibernian	10	1	7	2	11	12	9
Rangers	8	2	4	2	11	11	8
Hearts	9	0	7	2	13	16	7
Kilmarnock	10	1	4	5	15	21	6
Ayr United	10	2	2	6	12	28	6

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SSW Innsbruck	16	8	6	2	23	11	22
Austria/WAC	16	8	3	5	30	24	19
Rapid	16	6	6	4	24	19	18
Admira/Wacker	16	6	5	5	22	21	17
Sturm Graz	16	6	4	6	21	24	16
VOeST Linz	16	5	5	6	21	20	15
Grazer AK	16	5	5	6	15	23	15
Linzer ASK	16	5	3	8	27	29	13
Vienna	16	3	7	6	11	16	13
Austria Salzburg	16	5	2	9	17	24	12

October 6
CHILE (0)
URUGUAY (0) 0
(Pinto Duran Cup, 1st leg)

Chile: Nef, Escobar, Herrera, Soto, Arias, Sanhueza, Salinas, Neira, Araneda, Pizarro (Crisosto), Moscoso (Veliz).

Uruguay: Rodriguez, Roux, Olivera (Jimenez), Villasan, Javier, Grafina, Pereira, Abalde (Urshue), Muñiz, Morena, Puppo.

October 13
ARGENTINA (2) 2
(Ardiles pen., Bertoni)
CHILE (0) 0
(Dittorn Cup, 1st leg)

Argentina: Gatti, Tarantini, Ogun, Killer, Carrascosa, Ardiles, Gallego, Valencia, Houseman (Villa), Saldaño (Beltrán), Bertoni.

Chile: Nef, Escobar, Herrera, R. Gonzalez, Arias, Sanhueza (Miranda), Veliz, Soto, Crisosto, Neira, Moscoso (Salinas).

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atletico Madrid	9	7	0	2	15	7	14
Barcelona	9	5	1	3	17	9	11
Real Madrid	9	5	1	3	16	11	11
Espanol Bar.	9	5	1	3	16	17	11
Valencia	8	4	2	2	19	12	10
Real Sociedad	9	3	3	3	14	12	9
Athletic Bilbao	9	3	3	3	13	13	9
Celta Vigo	9	4	1	4	6	7	9
Sevilla	9	3	3	3	6	9	9
R. Santander	9	4	1	4	9	11	9
Malaga	8	3	2	3	5	8	8
Las Palmas	9	4	0	5	11	13	8
Herc. Alicante	9	3	2	4	5	8	8
Real Zaragoza	9	3	1	5	14	16	7
Real Betis	9	3	1	5	11	13	7
Burgos	9	2	3	4	11	14	7
Elche	9	2	3	4	9	13	7
Salamanca	9	3	0	6	9	13	6

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Lisbon	8	7	1	0	19	3	15
Porto	8	4	2	2	22	11	10
Benfica	8	4	2	2	12	11	10
Varzim	8	4	2	2	15	15	10
Vit. Setubal	8	4	1	3	15	11	9
Estoril	8	2	5	1	9	6	9
Academico	8	4	1	3	11	9	9
Boavista Porto	8	4	0	4	15	13	8
Braga	8	2	4	2	12	13	8
Beira Mar	8	2	3	3	13	16	7
Vit. Guimaraes	8	3	1	4	11	14	7
Leixoes	8	0	6	2	3	5	6
Belenenses	8	1	4	3	6	9	6
Portimonense	8	2	1	5	5	11	5
Montijo	8	1	3	4	6	15	5
Atletico	8	1	2	5	5	17	4

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Feyenoord	13	11	1	1	39	12	23
Ajax	13	10	1	2	29	9	21
Roda JC	13	7	4	2	21	8	18
AZ'67 Alkmaar	13	6	4	3	30	17	16
Haarlem	13	6	4	3	18	15	16
Utrecht	13	7	2	4	22	22	16
PSV Eindhoven	13	6	3	4	27	16	15
Sp. Rotterdam	13	5	4	4	21	21	14
NAC Breda	13	6	2	5	22	23	14
Den Haag	13	4	3	6	23	20	11
EEV Eindhoven	13	3	5	5	13	22	11
GAE Deventer	13	3	5	5	17	31	11
T. Enschede	13	3	3	7	15	20	9
NEC Nijmegen	13	2	5	6	21	22	9
VVV Venlo	13	3	3	7	12	25	9
Telstar Velsen	13	2	3	8	14	28	7
Amsterdam	13	1	5	7	15	31	7
De Graafschap	13	3	1	9	12	29	7

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dyn. Dresden	10	6	3	1	30	12	15
Karl-Marx-Stadt	10	6	1	3	18	12	13
Carl Zeiss Jena	10	5	2	3	22	14	12
Magdeburg	10	5	1	4	22	19	11
Berlin Dynamo	10	5	1	4	15	12	11
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	10	4	3	3	11	11	11
Vor. Franfurt	10	5	1	4	13	14	11
Lok. Leipzig	10	3	4	3	13	11	10
Sach. Zwickau	10	3	3	4	13	11	9
Hansa Rostock	10	4	1	5	14	16	9
Stahl Riesa	10	4	1	5	12	22	9
Chemie Halle	10	2	3	5	9	18	7
Union Berlin	10	2	2	6	9	16	6
Wismut Aue	10	1	4	5	9	22	6

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zürich	11	7	4	0	27	7	18
Servette	11	7	3	1	32	11	17
Young Boys	11	5	5	1	26	14	15
Basel	10	6	2	2	23	12	14
Grasshoppers	11	4	4	3	25	16	12
Lausanne	11	4	3	4	20	12	11
St. Gallen	11	3	4	4	11	19	10
Neuchâtel X.	11	2	5	4	16	22	9
Chènois	11	2	5	4	16	24	9
Sion	11	1	6	4	9	15	8
Winterthur	11	1	3	7	10	30	5
Bellinzona	10	0	2	8	6	39	2

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
B. Mönchng.	12	9	3	0	30	8	21
Eintr. Braun	12	6	5	1	20	13	17
Hertha Berlin	12	6	4	2	23	12	16
Bayern	12	6	4	2	39	30	16
MSV Duisburg	12	5	5	2	26	16	15
Schalke 04	12	7	1	4	29	22	15
Cologne	12	7	0	5	26	17	14
Borussia Dort	12	5	3	4	24	21	13
VfL Bochum	12	6	1	5	20	21	13
Hamburger SV	12	4	3	5	16	21	11
Werder Bremen	12	3	4	5	19	20	10
Karlsruher SC	12	3	4	5	15	21	10
Fort. Düsseldorf	12	4	1	7	15	21	9
Tennis B. Berlin	12	3	3	6	21	41	9
Kaiserslautern	12	3	2	7	9	15	8
Eint. Frankfurt	12	3	1	8	26	32	7
Saarbrücken	12	2	3	7	9	16	7
R-Weiss Essen	12	1	3	8	14	34	5

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Star	12	8	4	0	22	11	20
Radnicki Nis	12	6	4	2	18	11	16
Dinamo Zagreb	12	6	3	3	16	11	15
Hajduk Split	12	6	2	4	21	10	14
Sloboda Tuzla	12	5	4	3	16	10	14
Rijeka	12	4	5	3	15	9	13
Velez Mostar	12	5	3	4	16	13	13
Voj. Novi Sad	12	4	5	3	12	11	13
Borac Banjaluka	12	5	2	5	15	14	12
Partizan	12	6	0	6	14	14	12
Olimpija Ljub	12	3	6	3	12	15	12
Buduc. Titograd	12	3	5	4	14	13	11
Napr. Krusevac	12	4	2	6	11	16	10
OFK Belgrad	12	3	4	5	14	23	10
Sarajevo	12	2	5	5	19	24	9
Zagreb	12	3	3	6	14	21	9
Celik Zenica	12	2	4	6	5	12	8
Zeljez. Sarajevo	12	0	5	7	5	21	5

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ujpest Dozsa	13	11	0	2	41	17	22
Ferencvaros	13	8	4	1	32	11	20
Honved	13	8	2	3	18	15	18
Vasas	13	8	1	4	35	20	17
Haladas	13	8	1	4	25	15	17
Bekescsaba	13	5	5	3	19	16	15
Videoton	13	6	1	6	31	22	13
Zalaegerszeg	13	5	3	5	17	16	13
Tatabanya	13	6	1	6	19	20	13
Rak. Kaposvar	13	4	4	5	17	18	12
MTK/VM	13	5	1	7	19	21	11
Diosgyör	13	5	1	7	14	23	11
EOL Szeged	13	3	5	5	12	26	11
Raba ETO Györ	13	4	2	7	14	21	10
Dunaujvaros	13	3	3	7	15	24	9
Salgotarjan	13	4	1	8	20	33	9
Csepel	13	2	4	7	12	22	8
Dorog	13	1	3	9	7	27	5

EURO REVIEW

• Continued from page 47

Dynamo Zagreb 2 (Kranjcar 15, 31)
Magdeburg 2 (Streich 17, Pommerenke 50)
HT: 1-1. Att: 35,000
Magdeburg 4-2 on agg

Espanol 2 (Jeremias 40, Ortiz Aquino 66 pen)
Eintracht Braunschweig 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 28,000
Espanol 3-2 on agg

Feyenoord 5 (W. Jansen 5, N. Jansen 17, De Jong 39, van Deinsen 44, Schneider 73 pen)
Kaiserslautern 0
HT: 4-0. Att: 40,000
Feyenoord 7-2 on agg

Grasshoppers 2 (Bauer 75 pen, Bosco 85)
1st FC Köln 3 (Müller 56, Larsen 58, 79)
Ht: 0-0. Att: 12,500
Köln 5-2 on agg

Honved 2 (Kozma 35, 70 pen)
Shakhter Donetsk 3 (Shevliuk 52, Reznik 60, 66)
HT: 1-0. Att: 10,000
Donetsk 6-2 on agg

Juventus 3 (Boninsegna 29, 63, Benetti 85)
Manchester Utd 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 70,000
Juventus 3-1 on agg

AC Milan 2 (Calloni 13, Morini 29)
Akademik Sofia 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 25,000
Milan 5-4 on agg

Oester Vaxjo 4 (Linderoth 20, 80, Ejderstedt 35, 53)
Hibernian 1 (Smith 81)
HT: 2-0. Att: 1,175
Oester 4-3 on agg

Queen's Park Rangers 5 (Givens 19, 33, 51 pen, Bowles 36, Clement 85)
Slovan Bratislava 2 (Ondrus 60, Jan Capkovic 65)
HT: 2-0. Att: 22,001
QPR 8-5 on agg

Red Star Belgrade 1 (Filipovic 80)
Austria Salzburg 0
HT: 2-0. Att: 20,000
Red Star on away goals, 2-2 on agg

RWD Molenbeek 1 (Nielsen 28)
Wisla Cracow 1 (Maculewicz 38)
HT: 1-1. 90 mins: 1-1. Att: 7,000
RWD win 5-4 on pens; 2-2 on agg

Schalke 4 (Bongartz 2, 78, Fischer 15, 24)
Sportul Bucharest 0
HT: 3-0. Att: 30,000
Schalke 5-0 on agg

Videoton 1 (Nagy 25)
Swarowski Innsbruck 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 22,000
Videoton 2-1 on agg

Lokeren 2 (Verheyen 17, Dalving 25)
CF Barcelona 1 (Cruyff 54)
HT: 2-0. Att: 17,000
Barcelona 3-2 on agg

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos	5	5	0	0	13	4	10
PAOK Salonika	5	4	1	0	13	1	9
Panathinaikos	5	3	2	0	13	4	8
AEK Athens	5	4	0	1	12	4	8
Iannina	5	2	3	0	10	4	7
Apollon	5	3	1	1	7	4	7
Aris	5	2	1	2	7	6	5
Panseraikos	5	2	1	2	7	8	5
Panachaiki	5	2	1	2	4	5	5
Panaitolikos	5	2	1	2	4	7	5
Ethnikos	5	1	2	2	3	6	4
Ofi Iraklion	5	1	1	3	5	7	3
Pierikos Katerini	5	1	1	3	8	11	3
Iraklis	5	1	1	3	5	9	3
Panionios	5	0	2	3	1	7	2
Kastoria	5	0	2	3	2	10	2
Kavala	5	0	2	3	2	10	2
Atromitos	5	0	2	3	3	12	2

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dukla Prague	11	8	2	1	25	11	18
Slavia Prague	11	5	5	1	23	11	15
Inter Bratislava	11	6	1	4	22	14	13
Zbrojovka Brno	11	6	1	4	18	15	13
Slovan	10	5	2	3	15	12	12
Lok. Kosice	11	6	0	5	18	13	12
Jednota Trencin	11	5	1	5	15	18	11
ZVL Zilina	10	4	2	4	15	12	10
Sparta Prague	11	4	2	5	13	18	10
Banik Ostrava	11	3	3	5	14	15	9
Bohem. Prague	11	3	3	5	9	13	9
Union Teplice	11	3	3	5	16	21	9
Skoda Plzen	10	2	4	4	9	13	8
Spartak Trnava	10	3	2	5	8	17	8
Frydek-Mystek	11	3	2	6	8	14	8
VSS Kosice	11	3	1	7	14	25	7

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
LKS Lodz	11	6	4	1	21	9	16
Slask Wroclaw	11	6	4	1	14	8	16
Stal Mielec	11	6	3	2	20	12	15
Pogon Szczecin	11	5	4	2	19	14	14
Z. Sosnowiec	11	4	6	1	13	11	14
Wisla Krakow	11	3	6	2	14	10	12
Odra Opole	11	3	5	3	15	12	11
Widzew Lodz	11	3	5	3	18	18	11
Legia	11	3	5	3	14	14	11
Gornik Zabrze	11	5	1	5	13	14	11
Szom. Bytom	11	4	3	4	14	16	11
Ruch Chorzow	11	4	2	5	16	20	10
Arka Gdynia	11	4	1	6	11	15	9
ROW Rybnik	11	2	4	5	15	18	8
GKS Tychy	11	1	3	7	9	19	5
Lech Poznan	11	0	2	9	7	23	2

USSR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tpo. Moscow	14	9	2	3	20	8	20
Karpaty Lvov	14	6	5	3	22	16	17
Dyn. Moscow	13	7	1	5	14	10	15
CSKA Moscow	14	5	5	4	21	15	15
Dynamo Tbilisi	14	5	5	4	13	11	15
Lok. Moscow	14	6	3	5	13	12	15
Dynamo Kiev	13	4	6	3	16	15	14
Zenit Leningrad	14	5	4	5	19	16	14
K. Kuybyschev	14	5	4	5	12	14	14
Tcher. Odessa	14	6	1	7	12	20	13
Sch. Donezk	13	4	4	5	11	9	12
Sar. Voroschilov	14	5	2	7	11	17	12
Dnjepropetr	14	5	2	7	11	17	12
Spartak Moscow	13	4	3	6	13	15	11
Ararat Erevan	13	3	5	5	13	20	11
Dynamo Minsk	13	2	4	7	10	16	8

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dinamo	12	8	2	2	31	12	18
Uni. Craiova	12	7	2	3	23	13	16
Poli. Timisoara	12	7	1	4	19	12	15
Arges Pitesti	12	6	3	3	17	15	15
Sportul	11	5	4	2	14	6	14
Jiul Petrosani	12	6	2	4	15	12	14
Steaua	12	6	2	4	17	15	14
AS Armata	12	6	1	5	10	10	13
UT Arad	12	5	3	4	14	21	13
Rapid	12	5	1	6	17	17	11
Bihor Oradea	12	4	3	5	15	17	11
Progresul	12	3	5	4	16	23	11
Corvinul	12	3	4	5	12	16	10
Resita	11	4	1	6	14	18	9
Poli. Iassi	12	4	1	7	13	12	9
SC Bacau	12	3	2	7	13	18	8
Constanta	12	3	2	7	12	19	8
Galati	12	1	3	8	9	25	5

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	13	9	2	2	20	8	20
Ipswich	12	7	3	2	25	13	17
Aston Villa	13	8	0	5	27	16	16
Manchester City	13	5	6	2	17	11	16
Newcastle	13	5	6	2	18	13	16
Leicester	14	4	8	2	14	11	16
Middlesbrough	13	6	3	4	9	10	15
Everton	13	5	4	4	22	19	14
Arsenal	13	6	2	5	23	21	14
Leeds	13	5	4	4	18	16	14
Birmingham	14	6	2	6	20	19	14
West Bromwich	13	5	3	5	19	19	13
Stoke	13	5	3	5	10	13	13
Manchester U	12	4	4	4	19	18	12
Coventry	12	4	4	4	14	14	12
Queen's Park R.	13	4	4	5	17	19	12
Derby	12	2	6	4	18	18	10
Norwich	14	3	4	7	13	21	10
Tottenham	13	3	3	7	17	31	9
Bristol City	12	2	4	7	10	16	8
West Ham	13	2	4	8	14	28	7
Sunderland	12	1	4	7	7	17	6

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bastia	13	8	2	3	33	17	18
Lyon	13	7	4	2	25	15	18
Nantes	13	7	3	3	27	17	17
Metz	13	7	2	4	19	15	16
Nice	13	7	1	5	20	17	15
Nimes	12	5	4	3	15	15	14
Lens	13	4	6	3	29	26	14
Reims	13	5	4	4	22	20	14
Laval	13	6	2	5	19	19	14
St-Germain	12	5	3	4	21	21	13
Marseille	12	5	2	5	19	19	12
Nancy	13	4	4	5	27	24	12
Sochaux	13	5	1	7	18	22	11
Bordeaux	13	4	3	6	17	21	11
Troyes	13	4	3	6	12	17	11
Angers	13	4	3	6	18	26	11
St-Etienne	12	2	6	4	13	13	10
Valenciennes	13	3	4	6	15	21	10
Rennes	13	3	2	8	11	23	8
Lille	13	3	1	9	18	30	7

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Torino	5	5	0	0	10	1	10
Juventus	5	5	0	0	11	4	10
Napoli	5	3	2	0	11	5	8
Lazio	5	3	1	1	7	3	7
Perugia	5	3	0	2	7	4	6
Roma	5	1	3	1	5	5	5
Fiorentina	5	2	1	2	4	4	5
Inter	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Milan	5	1	2	2	5	7	4
Verona	5	1	2	2	5	8	4
Catanzaro	5	1	2	2	3	6	4
Foggia	5	0	3	2	2	4	3
Sampdoria	5	0	3	2	2	5	3
Bologna	5	0	3	2	3	9	3
Genoa	5	0	2	3	6	9	2
Cesena	5	0	2	3	2	8	2

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